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TREASURY



*Charles C Jones, Jr.*





Note - The letters formerly bound  
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## Note.

This volume contains Prints of the following Officers  
 President Davis 11. Secretary Jas<sup>r</sup> A Seddon, Generals B Bagg  
 5, J. Cooper, J Longstreet, 5, Leonidas Polk 5, S J Hest,  
 A E Burnside, L R Buckner, W<sup>m</sup> T Hardee, 11. A P - la  
 ant, Geo W Thomas, B R Cheatham, J A Briceland 11  
 P H Sheridan, Jeff C Davis, J C Hindman, Rosecrank 5  
 W H Forrest, 11. Jas Wheeler, McCook, Geo W Morgan 11 10.

and Autographs Letters, Autographs &c &c of  
President Davis, Secretary Seddon, Generals B. Brown,  
J. Cooper, L. Polk, J. Longstreet, J. M. Laws, S. B.  
Buckner, W. W. Mackall, A. Stewart, M. J. Wright,  
B. R. Chatham, B. W. Adams, J. C. Breckinridge,  
G. M. Dorrell, W. J. Harder, F. C. Hindman, J. A.  
Wharton, W. F. Martin, S. A. Harrison, J. M. Allen,  
A. R. Hill, J. A. Puley, F. C. Armstrong, W. B. Powell,  
J. P. McCoin, Patton Anderson, A. M. Manigault,  
B. R. Johnson, E. Capers, J. R. Gist, E. C. Wallcut,  
Z. C. Secor, J. A. Boren, Geo. Maney, Peter Smith,  
C. F. Stahl, Jno R Jackson, A. Grace Jr, J. C. Carter,  
H. J. Clayton, J. M. Wilkes, Wm B Bate &c &c  
L. B. Kershaw, H. W. Gordon, and J. M. Wright  
Colonels B. W. Harper, L. W. Carey, Geo A Hunt, Richard  
Palciner, Majors Archie Anderson, J. B. Cunningham,  
A. R. Smith, &c &c, and various titles &c &c



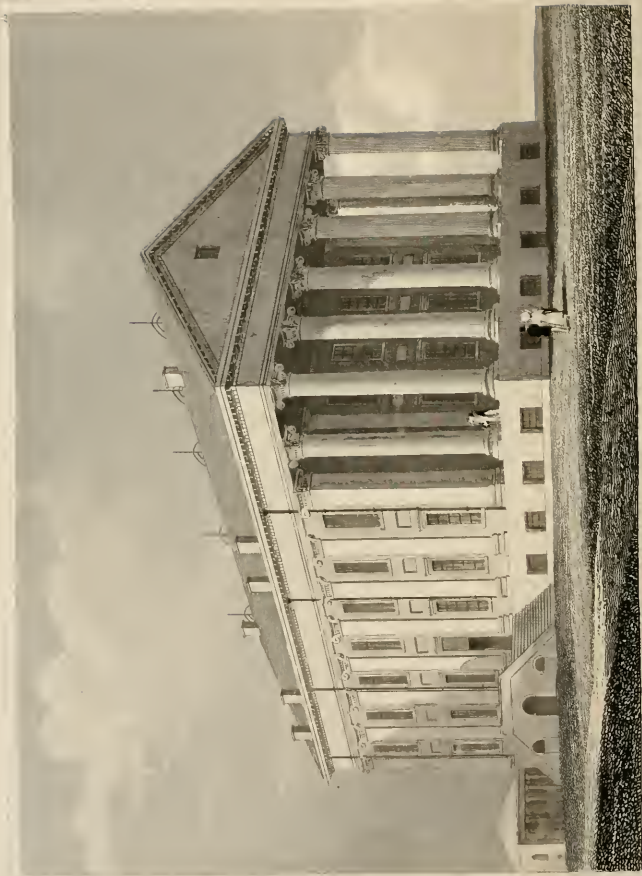








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CAPITOL OF VIRGINIA, RICHMOND

OFFICIAL REPORT ·

OF THE

# BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF CONGRESS.

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RICHMOND

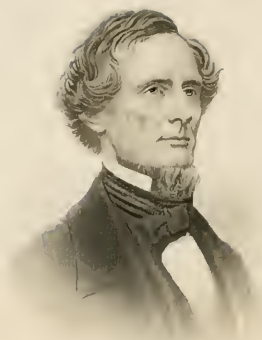
R. M. SMITH, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1864.









*Joseph Davis.*





Miss Lucy M  
James A Sedgwick

## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

RICHMOND, VA., May 19, 1864.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives :*

I herewith transmit, for your information, a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of the reports of General Bragg and his subordinate commanders, of the battle of Chickamauga.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, WAR DEPARTMENT, }  
Richmond, Va., May 19, 1864. }

*To His Excellency the President :*

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith, for the information of Congress, copies of the reports of General Bragg and his subordinate commanders, of the battle of Chickamauga.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

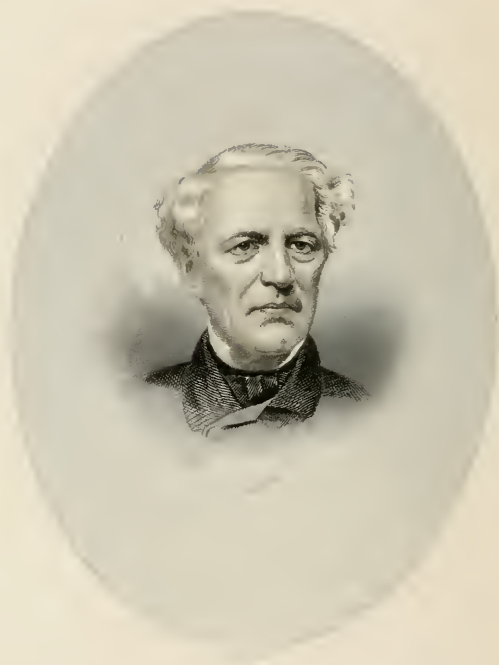
JAMES A. SEDDON.

*Secretary of War.*



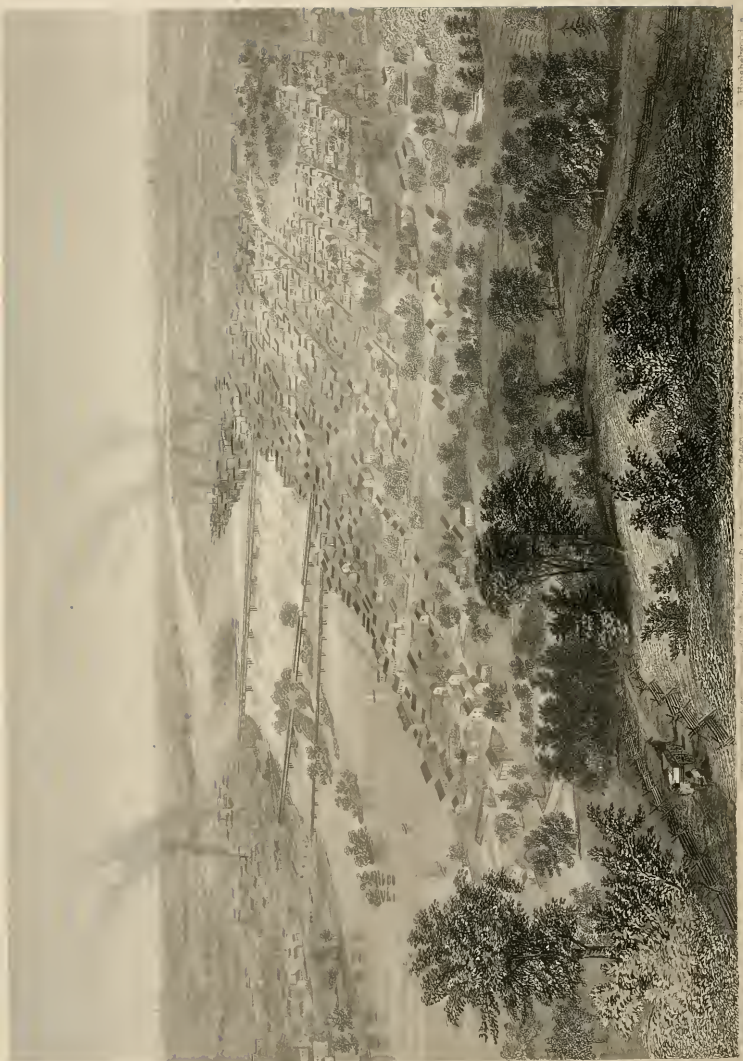






GEORGE SUMNER





# BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA.

## REPORT OF GENERAL BRAGG.

WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA, December 28, 1863.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant General C. S. A., Richmond, Va :*

SIR: Most of the subordinate reports of the operations of our troops at the battle of Chickamauga, having been received, are herewith forwarded, and for the better understanding of the movements preceding and following that important event the following narrative is submitted:

On the 20th of August it was ascertained certainly that the Federal army from Middle Tennessee, under General Rosecranz, had crossed the mountains to Stevenson and Bridgeport. His force of effective infantry and artillery amounted to fully seventy thousand, divided into four corps. About the same time, General Burnside advanced from Kentucky towards Knoxville, East Tennessee, with a force estimated by the General commanding that department at over 25,000. In view of the great superiority of numbers brought against him, General Buckner concluded to evacuate Knoxville, and, with a force of about five thousand infantry and artillery and his cavalry, took position in the vicinity of Loudon. Two brigades of his command, Frazier's, at Cumberland Gap, and Jackson's, in Northeast Tennessee, were thus severed from us. The enemy having already obtained a lodgment in East Tennessee by another route, the continued occupation of Cumberland Gap became very hazardous to the garrison and comparatively unimportant to us. Its evacuation was accordingly ordered, but on the appeal of its commander, stating his resources and ability for defence, favorably endorsed by Major General Buckner, the orders were suspended on the 31st August. The main body of our army was encamped near Chattanooga, whilst the

cavalry force, much reduced and enfeebled by long service on short rations, was recruiting in the vicinity of Rome, Georgia. Immediately after crossing the mountains to the Tennessee, the enemy threw a corps by way of Sequatchie valley to strike the rear of General Buckner's command, whilst Burnside occupied him in front. One division already ordered to his assistance proving insufficient to meet the force concentrating on him, Buckner was directed to withdraw to the Hiwassee with his infantry, artillery and supplies, and to hold his cavalry in front to check the enemy's advance. As soon as this change was made, the corps threatening his rear was withdrawn, and the enemy commenced a movement in force against our left and rear. On the last of August it became known that he had crossed his main force over the Tennessee river, at and near Carpenter's ferry, the most accessible point from Stevenson. By a direct route he was now as near our main depot of supplies as we were, and our whole line of communication was exposed, whilst his was partially secured by mountains and the river. By the timely arrival of two small divisions from Mississippi our effective force, exclusive of cavalry, was now a little over thirty-five thousand, with which it was determined to strike on the first favorable opportunity. Closely watched by our cavalry, which had been brought forward, it was soon ascertained that the enemy's general movement was towards our left and rear in the direction of Dalton and Rome, keeping Lookout mountain between us. The nature of the country and the want of supplies in it, with the presence of Burnside's force on our right, rendered a movement on the enemy's rear with our inferior force extremely hazardous, if not impracticable. It was, therefore, determined to meet him in front whenever he should emerge from the mountain gorges. To do this and hold Chattanooga was impossible, without such a division of our small force as to endanger both parts. Accordingly our troops were put in position on the 7th and 8th of September, and took position from Lee and Gordon's mill to Lafayette, on the road leading south from Chattanooga and fronting the east slope of Lookout mountain. The forces on the Hiwassee and at Chickamunga station took the route by Ringgold. A small cavalry force was left in observation at Chattanooga, and a brigade of infantry, strongly supported by cavalry, was left at Ringgold to hold the railroad and protect it from raids.

As soon as our movement was known to the enemy, his corps nearest Chattanooga, and which had been threatening Buckner's rear, was thrown into that place, and shortly thereafter, commenced to move on our rear by the two roads to Lafayette and Ringgold. Two other corps were now in Will's valley, one nearly opposite the head of McLenore's cove, a valley formed by Lookout mountain and a spur of the main ridge called Pigeon mountain, and the other at or near Colonel Winston's, opposite Alpine.

During the 9th, it was ascertained that a column, estimated at from four thousand to eight thousand, had crossed Lookout mountain into the cove by way of Stevens' and Cooper's gaps. Thrown off his guard by our rapid movement, apparently in retreat, when, in reality, we had concentrated opposite his centre, and deceived by the informa-



WILLIAM B. HAZARD





from deserters and others sent into his lines, the enemy pressed on his columns to intercept us, and thus exposed himself in detail.

Major General Hindman received verbal instructions on the 9th to prepare his division to move against this force, and was informed that another division from Lieutenant General Hill's command, at Lafayette, would join him. That evening the following written orders were issued to Generals Hindman and Hill:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE, }  
Lee and Gordon's Mills, 11 3-4 P. M., Sept. 9, 1863. }

Major General HINDMAN,  
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: You will move with your division immediately to DAVIS' cross roads, on the road from Lafayette to Stevens' gap. At this point you will put yourself in communication with the column of General Hill, ordered to move to the same point, and take command of the forces, or report to the officer commanding Hill's column, according to rank. If in command, you will move upon the enemy, reported to be four thousand or five thousand strong, encamped at the foot of Lookout mountain, at Stevens' gap. Another column of the enemy is reported to be at Cooper's gap—number not known.

I am, General, etc.,

KINLOCH FALCONER,  
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE, }  
Lee and Gordon's Mill, 11 3-4, P. M., Sept. 9, 1863. }

Lieutenant General HILL,  
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: I enclose orders given to General Hindman. General Bragg directs that you send or take, as your judgment dictates, Cleburne's division to unite with General Hindman, at Davis' cross roads to-morrow morning. Hindman starts at twelve o'clock to-night and he has thirteen miles to make. The commander of the column, thus united, will move upon the enemy encamped at the foot of Stevens' gap, said to be four thousand or five thousand. If unforeseen circumstances should prevent your movement notify Hindman. A cavalry force should accompany your column. Hindman has none. Open communication with Hindman with your cavalry in advance of the junction. He marches on the road from Dr. Anderson's to Davis' cross roads.

I am, General, etc.,

KINLOCH FALCONER,  
Assistant Adjutant General.

On the receipt of his order, during the night, General Hill reported that the movement required by him was impracticable, as General Cleburne was sick, and both the gaps, Ing and Catfish had been

blocked by felling timber, which would require twenty-four hours for its removal.

Not to lose this favorable opportunity, Hindman, by a prompt movement, being already in position, the following orders were issued at eight, A. M., on the 10th, for Major General Buckner to move with his two divisions and report to Hindman.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE, )  
*Lee and Gordon's Mill, 8. A. M.* )  
 September 19, 1863. )

Major General BUCKNER, *Anderson's :*

GENERAL: I enclose orders issued last night to Generals Hill and Hindman. General Hill has found it impossible to carry out the part assigned to Cleburne's division. The General commanding desires that you will execute, without delay, the order issued to General Hill. You can move to Davis' cross-roads by the direct road, from your present position at Anderson's, along which General Hindman has passed. I am, General, etc.,

GEORGE W. BRENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

And both Hindman and Hill were notified. Hindman had halted his division at Morgan's, some three or four miles from Davis' cross-roads, in the cove, and at this point Buckner joined him, during the afternoon of the 10th. Reports fully confirming previous information in regard to the position of the enemy's forces, were received during the 10th, and it became certain that he was moving his three columns to form a junction upon us, at or near Lafayette. The corps near Colonel Winston's, moved on the mountain towards Alpine, a point twenty miles south of us. The one opposite the cove continued its movement, and threw forward its advance to Davis' cross-roads, and Crittenden moved from Chattanooga on the roads to Ringgold and Lee and Gordon's mills. To strike these isolated commands in succession was our obvious policy. To secure more prompt and decided action in the movement ordered against the enemy's centre, my headquarters were removed to Lafayette, where I arrived about half-past eleven, P. M., on the 10th, and Lieutenant General Polk was ordered forward with his remaining division to Anderson's, so as to cover Hindman's rear during the operations in the cove. At Lafayette, I met Major Nocquet, engineer officer on General Buckner's staff, sent by General Hindman, after a junction of their commands, to confer with me, and suggest a change in the plan of operations. After hearing the reports of this officer, and obtaining from the active and energetic cavalry commander in front of our position, Brigadier General Martin the latest information of the enemy's movements and position, I verbally directed the Major to return to General Hindman and say that my plans could not be changed, and that he would carry out his orders. At the same time the following written orders were sent to the General by courier:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE. }  
*Lafayette, Ga., 12, P. M., Sept. 10, 1863.* }

Major General HINDMAN, *Commanding, etc.* :

GENERAL: Headquarters are here, and the following is the information:

Crittenden's corps is advancing on us from Chattanooga. A large force from the south has advanced to within seven miles of this point. Polk is left at Anderson's to cover your rear. General Bragg orders you to attack and force your way through the enemy to this point at the earliest hour you can see him in the morning. Cleburne will attack in front the moment your guns are heard.

I am, General, etc.,

GEORGE W. BRENT,

*Assistant Adjutant General.*

Orders were also given for Walker's reserve corps to move promptly and join Cleburne's division at Dug Gap, to unite in the attack. At the same time Cleburne was directed to remove all obstructions in the road in his front, which was promptly done, and by daylight he was ready to move. The obstructions in Catlett's Gap were also ordered to be removed, to clear the road in Hindman's rear. Breckinridge's division, Hill's corps was kept in position south of Lafayette to check any movement the enemy might make from that direction.

At daylight, I proceeded to join Cleburne at Dug Gap, and found him waiting the opening of Hindman's guns to move on the enemy's flank and rear. Most of the day was spent in this position, waiting in great anxiety for the attack by Hindman's column. Several couriers and two staff officers were dispatched at different times, urging him to move with promptness and vigor. About the middle of the afternoon, the first gun was heard, when the advance of Cleburne's division discovered the enemy had taken advantage of our delay and retreated to the mountain passes. The enemy now discovered his error, and commenced to repair it by withdrawing his corps from the direction of Alpine, to unite with the one near McComb's cove, whilst that was gradually extended towards Lee and Gordon's mills. Our movement having thus failed in its justly anticipated result, it was determined to turn upon the third corps of the enemy, approaching us from the direction of Chattanooga. The forces were accordingly withdrawn to Lafayette, and Polk's and Walker's corps were moved immediately in the direction of Lee and Gordon's mills. The one corps of the enemy in this direction was known to be divided—one division having been sent to Ringgold. Upon learning the dispositions of the enemy from our cavalry commander in that direction on the afternoon of the 12th, Lieutenant General Polk, commanding the advance forces, was directed in the following note:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE. }  
*Lafayette, Ga., 6, P. M., September 12.* }

Lieutenant General POLK:

GENERAL: I enclose you a dispatch from General Fagan. The

presents you a fine opportunity of striking Crittenden in detail, and I hope you will avail yourself of it at daylight to-morrow. This division crushed, and the others are yours. We can then turn on the force in the cove. Wheeler's cavalry will move on Wilder so as to cover your right. I shall be delighted to hear of your success.

Very truly yours,

BRANTON BRAGG.

To attack at daylight on the 13th. Upon further information the order was renewed in two notes, at later hours of the same day, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE, }  
Lafayette, Ga., 6, P. M., September 12, 1863. }

Lieutenant General POLK,

*Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: I enclose you a dispatch marked "A," and I now give you the orders of the commanding General, viz: to attack at day-dawn to-morrow the infantry column reported in said dispatch at three-quarters of a mile beyond Peavine church on the road to Graysville from Lafayette.

I am, General, etc.,

GEORGE W. BRENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE, }  
Lafayette, Ga., September 12, 1863. }

Lieutenant General POLK,

*Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: The enemy is approaching from the south, and it is highly important that your attack in the morning should be quick and decided. Let no time be lost.

I am General, etc.,

GEORGE W. BRENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

At eleven, P. M., a dispatch was received from the General, stating that he had taken a strong position for defence, and requesting that he should be heavily reinforced. He was promptly ordered not to defer his attack, his force being already numerically superior to the enemy, and was reminded that his success depended upon the promptness and rapidity of his movements. He was further informed that Buckner's corps would be moved within supporting distance the next morning.

Early on the 13th I proceeded to the front, ahead of Buckner's command, to find that no advance had been made on the enemy, and that his forces had formed a junction and recrossed the Chickamauga. Again disappointed, immediate measures were taken to place our trains and limited supplies in safe positions, when all our forces

were concentrated along the Chickamauga, threatening the enemy in front. Major General Wheeler, with two divisions of cavalry, occupied the positions on the extreme left, vacated by Hill's corps, and was directed to press the enemy in McLemore's cove, to divert his attention from our real movement. Brigadier General Forrest, with his own and Pegram's division of cavalry, covered the movement on our front and right. Brigadier General B. R. Johnson, whose brigade had been at Ringgold holding the railroad, was moved towards Reed's bridge, which brought him on the extreme right of the line. Walker's corps formed on his left, opposite Alexander's bridge. Buckner's next, near Ledford's ford. Polk's opposite Lee and Gordon's mills, and Hill's on the extreme left. With Johnston moved two brigades, just arrived from Mississippi, and three of Longstreet's corps, all without artillery and transportation.

The following orders were issued on the night of the 17th for the forces to cross the Chickamauga, commencing the movement at six o'clock, A. M., on the 18th, by the extreme right, at Reed's bridge.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY TENNESSEE, }  
*In the Field, Lee's Tun-yard, September 18, 1863.* }

#### CIRCULAR.

I. Johnston's column, (Hood's,) on crossing at or near Reed's bridge, will turn to the left by the most practicable route, and sweep up the Chickamauga towards Lee and Gordon's mills.

II. Walker, crossing at Alexander's bridge, will unite in this move, and push vigorously on the enemy's flank and rear in the same direction.

III. Buckner, crossing at Ledford's ford, will join in the movement to the left and press the enemy up the stream from Polk's front at Lee and Gordon's mills.

IV. Polk will press his forces to the front of Lee and Gordon's mills, and if met by too much resistance to cross will bear to the right and cross at Dalton's ford, or at Ledfords, as may be necessary, and join the attack wherever the enemy may be.

V. Hill will cover our left flank from an advance of the enemy from the cove, and, by pressing the cavalry in his front, ascertain if the enemy is reinforcing at Lee and Gordon's mills, in which event he will attack them in flank.

VI. Wheeler's cavalry will hold the gap in Pigeon Mountain, and cover our rear and left and bring up the stragglers.

VII. All teams, etc., not with troops, should go towards Ringgold and Dalton, Georgia, beyond Taylor's ridge. All cooking should be done at the trains; rations, when cooked, will be forwarded to the troops.

VIII. The above movements will be executed with the utmost promptness and persistence.

By command of General BRAGG.

GEORGE W. BRENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

The resistance offered by the enemy's cavalry and the difficulties arising from the bad and narrow country roads, caused unexpected delays in the execution of these movements. Though the commander of the right column was several times urged to press forward, his crossing was not effected until late in the afternoon. At this time, Major General Hood, of Longstreet's corps, arrived and assumed command of the column, Brigadier General Johnston resuming his improvised division of three brigades. Alexander's bridge was hotly contested and finally broken up by the enemy, just as General Walker secured possession. He moved down stream, however, a short distance and crossed, as directed, at Byron's ford, and thus secured a junction with Hood after night.

The movement was resumed at daylight on the 19th, and Buckner's corps, with Cheatham's division, of Polk's, had crossed and formed when a brisk engagement commenced with our cavalry under Forrest on the extreme right. About nine o'clock, a brigade from Walker was ordered to Forrest's support, and soon after Walker was ordered to attack with his whole force. Our line was now formed with Buckner's left resting on the Chickamauga, about one mile below Lee and Gordon's mills. On his right came Hood with his own and Johnston's divisions, with Walker on the extreme right, Cheatham's division being in reserve, the general direction being a little east of north. The attack ordered by our right was made by General Walker in his usual gallant style, and soon developed a largely superior force opposed. He drove them handsomely, however, and captured several batteries of artillery in most gallant charges. Before Cheatham's division, ordered to his support, could reach him he had been pressed back to his first position by the extended lines of the enemy assailing him on both flanks. The two commands united were soon enabled to force the enemy back again, and recover our advantage, though we were yet greatly outnumbered. These movements on our right were in a direction to leave an opening in our line between Cheatham and Hood. Stewart's division, forming Buckner's second line, was thrown to the right to fill this, and it soon became hotly engaged as did Hood's whole front. The enemy, whose left was at Lee and Gordon's mills when our movement commenced, had rapidly transferred forces from his extreme right, changing his entire line, and seemed disposed to dispute, with all his ability, our effort to gain the main road to Chattahoochee in his rear. Lieutenant General Polk was ordered to move his remaining division across at the nearest ford, and to assume the command in person on our right. Hill's corps was also ordered to cross below Lee and Gordon's mills and join the line on the right.

Whilst these movements were being made our right and centre were heavily and almost constantly engaged. Stewart by a vigorous assault broke the enemy's centre, and penetrated far into his lines, but was obliged to retire for want of sufficient force to meet the heavy enfilade fire which he encountered from the right. Hood, later engaged, advanced from the first fire, and continued to drive the force in his front until night. Cleburne's division, of Hill's corps, which first reached the right, was ordered to attack immediately, in conjunction with the









force already engaged. This veteran command, under its gallant chief, moved to its work after sunset, taking the enemy completely by surprise, driving him in great disorder for nearly a mile, and inflicting a very heavy loss. Night found us masters of the ground, after a series of very obstinate contests with largely superior numbers.

From captured prisoners and others we learned with certainty that we had encountered the enemy's whole force which had been moving day and night since they first ascertained the direction of our march. Orders had been given for the rapid march to the field of all reinforcements arriving by railroad, and three additional brigades from this source joined us early next morning. The remaining forces on our extreme left, east of the Chickamauga, had been ordered up early in the afternoon, but reached the field too late to participate in the engagement of that day. They were ordered into line on their arrival, and disposed for a renewal of the action early the next morning. Information was received from Lieutenant General Longstreet of his arrival at Ringgold and departure for the field. Five small brigades of his corps, about five thousand effective infantry, no artillery, reached us in time to participate in the action, three of them on the 19th, and two more on the 20th.

Upon the close of the engagement on the evening of the 19th, the proper commanders were summoned to my camp fire, and there received the information and instructions touching the disposition of the troops, and for the operations of the next morning. The whole force was divided for the next morning into two commands and assigned to the two senior Lieutenant Generals, Longstreet and Polk. The former to the left where all his own troops were stationed, the latter continuing his command of the right. Lieutenant General Longstreet reached my headquarters about eleven, P. M., and immediately received his instructions. After a few hours rest at my camp fire, he moved at daylight to his line just in front of my position. Lieutenant General Polk was ordered to assail the enemy on our extreme right at day-dawn on the 20th, and to take up the attack in succession rapidly to the left. The left wing was to await the attack by the right, take it promptly when made, and the whole line was then to be pushed vigorously and persistently against the enemy throughout its extent. Before the dawn of day myself and staff were ready for the saddle, occupying a position immediately in rear of and accessible to all parts of the line. With increasing anxiety and disappointment I waited until after sunrise without hearing a gun, and at length dispatched a staff officer to Lieutenant General Polk to ascertain the cause of the delay, and urge him to a prompt and speedy movement. This officer not finding the general with his troops, and learning where he had spent the night, proceeded across Alexander's bridge to the east side of the Chickamauga and there delivered my message. Proceeding in person to the right wing, I found the troops not even prepared for the movement. Messengers were immediately dispatched for Lieutenant General Polk, and he shortly after joined me. My orders were renewed, and the General was urged to their prompt execution, the more important as the ear was saluted through-

out the night with the sounds of the axe and fallen timber, as the enemy industriously labored to strengthen his position by hastily constructed barricades and breastworks. A reconnoissance made in the front of our extreme right, during this delay, crossed the main road to Chattanooga, and proved the important fact that this greatly desired position was open to our possession.

The reasons assigned for this unfortunate delay by the wing commander appear in part in the reports of his subordinates. It is sufficient to say they are entirely satisfactory. It also appears from these reports that when the action was opened on the right, about ten o'clock, A. M., the troops were moved to the assault in detail and by detachments, unsupported until nearly all parts of the right wing were in turn repulsed with heavy loss. Our troops were led with the greatest gallantry, and exhibited great coolness, bravery and heroic devotion. In no instance did they fail, when called on, to rally and return to the charge. But though invariably driving the enemy, with great slaughter, at the points assailed, they were compelled in turn to yield to the greatly superior numbers constantly brought against them. The attack on the left, promptly made as ordered, met with less resistance, much of the enemy's strength having been transferred to our right, and was successfully and vigorously followed up. About two, P. M., passing along the line to our left, I found we had been checked in our progress by encountering a strong position, strengthened by works and obstinately defended. Unable to afford assistance from any other part of the field, written orders were immediately dispatched to Lieutenant General Polk to again assault the enemy in his front with his whole force, and to persist until he should dislodge him from his position. Directing the operations on our left to be continued, I moved again to the right and soon dispatched a staff officer to General Polk, urging a prompt and vigorous execution of my written orders. About four, P. M., this general assault was made and the attack was continued from right to left until the enemy gave way at different points, and, finally, about dark, yielded us his line. The contest was severe, but the impetuous charge of our troops could not be resisted when they were brought to bear in full force, even where the enemy possessed all the advantage of position and breastworks. The troops were halted, by their respective commanders, when the darkness of the night and the density of the forest rendered further movements uncertain and dangerous, and the army bivouacked on the ground it had so gallantly won. Both flanks having advanced more rapidly than the centre, they were found confronting each other in lines nearly parallel and within artillery range. Any advance by them, especially at night, over ground so thickly wooded, might have resulted in the most serious consequences.

The enemy, though driven from his lines, still confronted us, and desultory firing was heard until eight, P. M. Other noises, indicating movements and dispositions for the morrow, continued until a late hour at night.

During the operations by the main forces, on the 19th and 20th, the cavalry, on the flanks, was actively and usefully employed, hold-

ing the enemy in observation and threatening or assailing him as occasion offered. From the report of Major General Wheeler, commanding on the left, it will be seen what important service was rendered, both on the 20th and 21st, by his command, especially in the capture of prisoners and property, and in the dispersion of the enemy's cavalry. Brigadier General Forrest's report will show equally gallant and valuable services by his command on our right.

Exhausted by two days' battle, with very limited supply of provisions, and almost destitute of water, some time in daylight was absolutely essential for our troops to supply these necessities and replenish their ammunition before renewing the contest. Availing myself of this necessary delay to inspect and readjust my lines, I moved, as soon as daylight served, on the 21st. On my arrival, about sunrise, near Lieutenant General Polk's bivouac, I met the ever vigilant General Liddell, commanding a division in our front line, who was awaiting the General to report that his pickets this morning discovered the enemy had retreated during the night from his immediate front. Instructions were promptly given to push forward our whole line of skirmishers to the front, and I moved to the left and extended these orders. All the cavalry at hand, including my personal guard, were ordered to the front. Members of my staff, in passing through the lines of our left wing with their escort, were warned of danger, and told that they were entering on the neutral ground between us and the enemy. But this proved to be an error, and our cavalry soon came upon the enemy's rear guard, where the main road passes through Missionary ridge. He had availed himself of the night to withdraw from our front, and his main body was already in position within his lines at Chattanooga. Any immediate pursuit by our infantry and artillery would have been fruitless, as it was not deemed practicable, with our weak and exhausted forces, to assail the enemy, now more than double our numbers, behind his entrenchments. Though we had defeated him and driven him from the field with heavy loss in men, arms and artillery, it had only been done by heavy sacrifices, in repeated, persistent and most gallant assaults upon superior numbers strongly posted and protected.

The conduct of our troops was excellent throughout the prolonged contest. Often repulsed where success seemed impossible, they never failed to rally and return to the charge, until the last combined and determined effort, in which the spirit of every man seemed to conspire for success, was crowned with the reward due to such gallantry in a just cause.

Our loss was in proportion to the prolonged and obstinate struggle. Two-fifths of our gallant troops had fallen, and the number of general and staff officers stricken down will best show how these troops were led. Major General Hood, the model soldier and inspiring leader, fell after contributing largely to our success, and has suffered the irreparable loss of a leg. That his valuable life should be spared to us is, however, a source of thankfulness and gratitude. Major General Hindman, highly distinguished for gallantry and good conduct, received a severe contusion, but persisted in keeping the saddle until he witnessed the

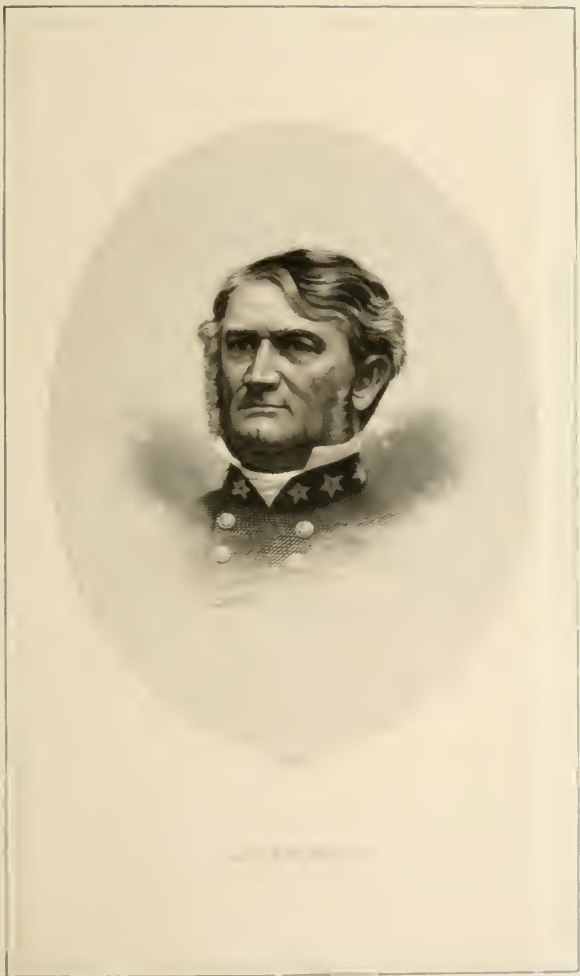
success in which his command largely participated. Brigadier Generals R. H. Helm, Preston Smith and James Deshla died upon the field in the heroic discharge of duty. They were true patriots and gallant soldiers, and worthy of the high reputation they enjoyed. Brigadier Generals Adams, Gregg and McNair fell severely wounded whilst gallantly leading their commands in the thickest of the fight. It is gratifying to know they are convalescing and will be again found at the post of duty and danger.

Judging from appearances on the field, the enemy's losses must have exceeded our own largely, but we have no means of correctly estimating them. We captured over eight thousand prisoners, fifty-one pieces of artillery, fifteen thousand stand of small arms, and quantities of ammunition, with wagons, ambulances and teams, medicines, and hospital stores in large quantities. The accompanying maps, one, two, three and four, based on accurate surveys, will afford the necessary information for the correct understanding of the movements of both armies. The positions of the troops on the field are given mostly from the sketches of their respective commanders. The times selected for indication were the morning of the 19th, when the action commenced—the morning of the 20th and the evening of the 20th, at the close of the operations. There has been much delay in rendering some of the subordinate reports, and none have been received from Lieutenant Generals Polk and Hill, and only two from brigades in Longstreet's corps. The absence of these has caused a delay in making up my own, and induced me to defer forwarding the others, hoping that all might be submitted together.

For the many deeds of daring and acts of heroic devotion exhibited on this field reference is made to the subordinate reports. It will be remarked that the private soldier is eminently distinguished, as he always will be, in an army where the rank and file is made up of the best citizens of the country.

The medical officers, both in the field and in the hospitals, earned the lasting gratitude of the soldier and deserve the highest commendation. The great number of wounded thrown suddenly upon their hands taxed every energy and every faculty. With means greatly inadequate, especially in transportation, they soon reduced confusion into order, and, by assiduity and skill, afforded to the gallant sufferers that temporal relief for which they might look in vain to any other source. In this connection, it is a pleasing duty to acknowledge in grateful terms the deep indebtedness of the army to the Hospital Relief Associations, which so promptly and so generously pressed forward their much needed assistance. Under the admirable management of their officers in Atlanta, we were soon furnished with every necessary and comfort, and stores continued to arrive until notice was given that our wants were all supplied. The officers of my staff, personal and general, served me on this field and on the arduous marches, proceeding with their usual zeal, intelligence and gallantry.

The whole cavalry force having been despatched to press the enemy and cut off detachments, orders were given for the army to move to a







point near the railroad and convenient to water, still interposing between the enemy and our large number of wounded, our trophies, and our wounded prisoners, whose removal from the field occupied many days.

Our supplies of all kinds were greatly reduced, the railroad having been constantly occupied in transporting troops, prisoners, and our wounded, and the bridges having been destroyed to a point two miles south of Ringgold. These supplies were ordered to be replenished, and as soon as it was seen that we could be subsisted, the army was moved forward to seize and hold the only communication the enemy had with his supplies in the rear. His important road, and the shortest by half to his depot at Bridgeport, lay along the south bank of the Tennessee. The holding of this all important route was confided to Lieutenant General Longstreet's command, and its possession forced the enemy to a road double the length, over two ranges of mountains, by wagon transportation. At the same time, our cavalry, in large force, was thrown across the river to operate on this long and difficult route. These dispositions, faithfully sustained, insured the enemy's speedy evacuation of Chattanooga for want of food and forage. Possessed of the shortest road to his depot, and the one by which reinforcements must reach him, we held him at our mercy, and his destruction was only a question of time. The disastrous loss of these advantages must be the subject of a future communication. The suggestion of a movement by our right, immediately after the battle, to the north of the Tennessee, and thence upon Nashville, requires notice only because it will find a place on the files of the department. Such a movement was utterly impossible for want of transportation. Nearly half our army consisted of reinforcements just before the battle, without a wagon or an artillery horse, and nearly, if not quite, a third of the artillery horses on the field had been lost. The railroad bridges, too, had been destroyed to a point south of Ringgold, and, in all, the road from Cleveland to Knoxville. To these insurmountable difficulties were added the entire absence of means to cross the river, except by fording at a few precarious points too deep for artillery, and the well known danger of sudden rises, by which all communication would be cut, a contingency which did actually happen a few days after the victory was won. But the most serious objection to the proposition was its entire want of military propriety. It abandoned to the enemy our entire line of communication, and laid open to him our depots of supplies, whilst it placed us with a greatly inferior force beyond a difficult and, at times, impassable river, in a country affording no subsistence to men or animals. It also left open to the enemy, at a distance of only ten miles, our battle field, with thousands of our wounded and his own, and all the trophies and supplies we had won. All this was to be risked and given up for what? To gain the enemy's rear and cut him off from his depot of supplies by the route over the mountains, when the very movement abandoned to his unmolested use the better and more practicable route of half the length on the south side of the river. It is hardly necessary to say

the proposition was not even entertained, whatever may have been the inferences drawn from subsequent movements.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG, *General*.

WARM SPRINGS, GA., *January 2, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant General, C. S. A.:*

Sir: I forward the reports of the battles of Chickamauga by my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant Ellis. The maps of the battle-field have been so long and so unexpectedly delayed that I conclude not to wait for them any longer. They are daily expected from Dalton, where I left them nearly completed, and will be forwarded as soon as received.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG, *General*.



## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL LONGSTREET.

HEADQUARTERS NEAR CHATTANOOGA, }  
October, 1862. }

Colonel GEORGE WM. BRENT,

*Assistant Adjutant General :*

COLONEL: Our train reached Catoosa platform, near Ringgold, about two o'clock in the afternoon of the 19th of September. As soon as our horses came up, about four o'clock, I started with Colonel Sorrel and Colonel Manning, of my staff, to find the headquarters of the commanding General. We missed our way, and did not report until near eleven o'clock at night. Upon my arrival, I was informed that the troops had been engaged during the day in severe skirmishing, while endeavoring to get in line for battle. The commanding General gave me a map showing the roads and streams between Lookout mountain and the Chickamauga river, and a general description of our position, and informed me that the battle was ordered at daylight the next morning; the action to be brought on upon our right, and to be taken up successively to the left; the general movement to be a wheel upon my extreme left as a pivot. I was assigned to the command of the left wing, composed of Hood's and Hindman's divisions, an improvised division under Brigadier General B. R. Johnson, and Buckner's corps, consisting of Stewart's and Preston's divisions. The artillery consisted of the battalions of Majors Williams, Robertson and Leyden, together with some other batteries attached to brigades.

As soon as day of the 20th had dawned, I rode to the front to find my troops. The line was arranged from the right to left as follows: Stewart's, Johnson's Hindman's and Preston's divisions. Hood's division (of which only three brigades were up) was somewhat in the rear of Johnson's. Kershaw's and Humphrey's brigades, McLaw's division, were ordered forward from Ringgold the night before, but were not yet up. General McLaws had not arrived from Richmond. I set to work to have the line adjusted by closing to the right, in order to occupy some vacant ground between the two wings, and to make room for Hood in the front line. The divisions were ordered to form with two brigades in the front line, and one supporting, where there were but three brigades, and two supporting where there were more than three. General Hood was ordered to take the brigades of Kershaw and Humphreys and use them as supports for his division, thus making his division the main column of attack. Before these arrangements were completed, the attack was made by our right wing about ten o'clock. The battle seemed to rage with considerable fury, but did not progress as had been anticipated. As soon as I was prepared, I sent to the commanding General to suggest that I had probably better make my attack. Before the messenger returned, I heard that the commanding General had sent orders for the division commanders to move forward and attack. I had no time to find the officer who brought the order, as some of the troops were in motion when I heard of it.

Upon this information, I at once issued orders to attack to the troops not already in motion, holding one of Buckner's divisions (Preston's) in reserve. As the battle upon our right was not so successful as had been expected in the plan of attack, I was obliged to reverse the order of battle, by retaining my right somewhere near the left of the right wing. To do this, Stewart's division was obliged to halt upon reaching the Lafayette and Chattanooga road. Hood's column broke the enemy's line near the Brotherton house, and made its wheel to the right. In making this movement, Major General Hood fell severely, and it was feared mortally, wounded, by a minie ball breaking his thigh. He had broken the enemy's line, however, and his own troops and those to his right and left continued to press the enemy with such spirit and force that he could not resist us.

Brigadier General Law succeeded to the command of Hood's division, and Brigadier General Kershaw to the command of the two brigades of McLaws' division. General Kershaw having received no definite orders himself, (being under the command of General Hood,) and was not advised of the wheel to the right, had gained more ground to the front than was intended in the movement of his two brigades. Johnson's division followed the movement made by Hood, and gained the Crawfish Spring and Chattanooga road, having a full share in the conflict.

Major General Hindman, in command of my left division, first met the enemy near the Vineyard house, and drove him back upon his strong position near the widow Glenn's or burnt house. By a well-directed front and flank attack, he gained the position after a severe struggle. The enemy's dead at this point mark well his line of battle. Hindman was then ordered to move by his right flank and reinforce Johnson, near the Villets house, who was pressing forward against great odds.

About three o'clock in the afternoon, I asked the commanding General for some of the troops of the right wing, but was informed by him that they had been beaten back so badly that they could be of no service to me. I had but one division that had not been engaged, and hesitated to venture to put it in, as our distress upon our right seemed to be almost as great as that of the enemy upon his right. I therefore concluded to hold Preston for the time, and urge on to renewed efforts our brave men who had already been engaged many hours. The heights extending from the Villets house across to the Snodgrass house gave the enemy strong ground upon which to rally. Here he gathered most of his broken forces and reinforced them. After a long and bloody struggle, Johnson and Hindman gained the heights near the Crawfish Spring road. Kershaw made a most handsome attack upon the heights at the Snodgrass house, simultaneously with Johnson and Hindman, but was not strong enough for the work. It was evident that with this position gained, I should be complete master of the field. I therefore ordered General Buckner to move Preston forward. Before this, however, General Buckner had established a battery of twelve guns, raking down the enemy's line which opposed our right wing, and at the same time having fine play upon any force that might at-









Gen. John A. Macdonald

tempt to reinforce the hill that he was about to attack. General Stewart, of his corps, was also ordered to move against any such force in flank. The combination was well timed and arranged. Preston dashed gallantly at the hill. Stewart flanked a reinforcing column, and captured a large portion of it. At the same time, the fire of the battery struck such terror into a heavy force close under it, that we took there also a large number of prisoners. Preston's assault, though not a complete success at the onset, taken in connection with the other operations, crippled the enemy so badly that his ranks were badly broken, and by a flank movement and another advance the heights were gained. These reinforcements were the enemy's last or reserve corps, and a part also of the line that had been opposing our right wing during the morning. The enemy broke up in great confusion along my front, and, about the same time, the right wing made a gallant dash and gained the line that had been held so long and obstinately against it. A simultaneous and continuous shout from the two wings announced our success complete. The enemy had fought every man that he had, and every one had been in turn beaten. As it was almost dark, I ordered my line to remain as it was; ammunition boxes to be refilled, stragglers to be collected, and everything in readiness for the pursuit in the morning.

Early on the 21st, the commanding General stopped at my bivouac and asked my views as to our future movements. I suggested crossing the river above Chattanooga, so as to make ourselves sufficiently felt on the enemy's rear, as to force his evacuation of Chattanooga—indeed, force him back upon Nashville, and, if we should find our transportation inadequate for a continuance of this movement, to follow up the railroad to Knoxville, destroy Burnside, and from there threaten the enemy's railroad communication in rear of Nashville.

This I supposed to be the only practicable flank movement, owing to the scarcity of our transportation; and it seemed to keep us very nearly as close to the railroad as we were at the time. At parting I understood the commanding General to agree that such was probably our best move, and that he was about to give the necessary orders for its execution. Orders came in the afternoon for the march. The rear of the right wing did not move until quite dark. I did not, therefore, put my wing in motion till daylight the following morning. Before moving on the morning of the 22d, McLaws' division was ordered to follow the enemy on to Chattanooga. The remainder of the command marched for the Red house ford, and halted about noon. During that night I received orders to march the entire command back to Chattanooga, and moved in pursuance thereof early on the 23d. We reached the Watkins house about eleven o'clock, A. M., and proceeded to take up a line around the enemy's position at Chattanooga. I desire to mention the following named officers as distinguished for conduct and ability, viz: Major Generals Hood, Buckner, Hindman and Stewart; Brig. Generals B. R. Johnson, Preston, Law, (respectively in command of division,) Kershaw, Patton, Anderson, Gracie, McNair, (severely wounded,) and Colonels Trigg and Kelly, both in command of brigades. Honorable mention should also be

made of Brigadier Generals Humphreys, Benning, Deas, Clayton, Bate, Brown, Robertson and Manigault. For more detailed accounts of the noble deeds performed by our gallant officers and brave soldiers, I refer you to the reports of my junior officers. The steady, good conduct throughout the long conflict of the subordinate officers and men which the limits of this report will not permit me to particularize, is worthy of the highest praise and admiration. I am greatly indebted to Lieutenant Colonel Sorrel, assistant adjutant general, Lieutenant Colonel Manning, chief of ordnance, Major Latrobe, assistant adjutant and inspector general and Captain Manning, signal corps, for their able, untiring and gallant assistance. Colonel Manning received a painful wound. The movement of Stewart's division against the enemy's reinforcements was made upon the suggestion of Colonel Sorrel and Captain Manning. The result was the beginning of the general break throughout the enemy's line. My other staff officers had not arrived from Virginia. Major Walton, acting chief of subsistence department, and Major Keilly, acting chief of quartermaster's department, were at the railroad depot in the active discharge of the duties of their departments. Among the captures made by the left wing during the day, were not less than forty pieces of artillery, over three thousand prisoners, and ten regimental standards, besides a few wagons, seventeen boxes small arms, eleven hundred and thirty sets accoutrements, and three hundred and ninety-three thousand rounds small arm ammunition, were collected on the field. The accompanying list of casualties shows a loss by the command (without McNair's brigade, from which no report has been received) of one thousand and eighty nine killed, six thousand five hundred and six wounded, and two hundred and seventy-two missing. Its strength on going into action on the 20th was two thousand and thirty-three officers and twenty thousand eight hundred and forty-nine men.

I have the honor to be, Colonel,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,

*Lieutenant General.*





*Gen. T. C. Smith*



## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL S. E. BUCKNER.

HEADQUARTERS NEAR CHATTANOOGA, November 11, 1863.

Colonel SORRELL,

*Assistant Adjutant General Longstreet's Corps :*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit, in connection with the reports of my subordinate commanders, the following synopsis of the military movements of Buckner's corps on the 18th, 19th and 20th September, 1863:

The corps consisted of the division of Major General A. P. Stewart, which was composed of Johnson's, Brown's, Bate's and Clayton's brigades, and of the division of Brigadier General William Preston, composed of the brigades of Brigadier General Gracie and of Colonels Trigg and Kelly, of a battalion of artillery to each division, and a battalion of reserve artillery, under Major S. C. Williams. Brigadier General Johnson's brigade having been detached several days before, by orders from army headquarters, was engaged under its gallant commander under the orders of another corps commander, and did not report to me until two days after the battle.

On the morning of the 18th, I moved from a point on Peavine creek, midway between Peavine church and Rock Spring church, under orders to cross the West Chickamunga river at Thedford's ford, after Major General Walker's division had succeeded in crossing below me. Part of my route being common with that of Walker's column, my march was somewhat retarded by the encounter of the two columns, but notwithstanding this I occupied, about two, P. M., with Stewart's division, after a brisk skirmish, the crossing at Thedford's ford, and with Preston's division, without opposition, the crossing at Hunt's or Dalton's ford. In this position, holding both banks of the stream, I awaited the movements of Walker, on my right.

At daylight on the 19th, under instructions from the commanding General, I crossed my entire corps to the west bank and formed it in line of battle—Stewart on the right, (on the left of Hood's division.) facing southwest, in the direction of Lee & Gordon's mill; General Cheatham's division, as I was informed, being directed to sustain me in the proposed advance. About noon, when the enemy's attack on Walker had been met, and Cheatham's division, which had been sent to sustain him, had become hotly engaged, Stewart's division was detached, by the orders of the commanding General, to support Cheatham. For the operations of his division until he again came under my orders, on the following afternoon, I refer to the report of its able commander.

In obedience to the orders of the commanding General, I remained with my remaining division to hold the extreme left of the line. With this view I deployed Preston's division on a line extending from an abrupt elevation on the bank of the river along a ridge in a north-west direction—the flanks well sustained by artillery. Considerable

skirmishing took place towards the right of this line—the enemy falling back in a southwest direction—and the troops were considerably exposed to artillery fire during the day. Being informed by a staff officer of the commanding General that General Hood, who had advanced to my right, was hard pressed, and being requested to reinforce him as far as I could, I immediately, about three o'clock, P. M., sent to his assistance the brigade of Colonel Trigg. The gallant and successful charge of this brigade drove back the advancing enemy and relieved the left of Hood, which was out-flanked and retiring before the enemy's heavy attack. During the day both Stewart's division and Trigg's brigade had penetrated the enemy's line and passed beyond the Chattanooga road; but at night both were drawn back into positions which would conform to the general line, which had pushed forward during the day's action. During the night of the 19th I materially strengthened the position on the left by entrenchments.

On the morning of the 20th, Lieutenant General Longstreet assumed command of the left wing. About two o'clock in the afternoon he, in person, ordered me to conduct Preston's division, leaving one regiment and a battery to hold the left, to the Chattanooga road. Between three and four o'clock it was formed as follows: Gracie's and Kelly's brigades in two lines, at right angles to the road north of Brotherton's, and just in rear of Poe's, commonly called the "burnt house;" Trigg's brigade just south of Brotherton's house, and supporting Williams' artillery. At this time Stewart was in line, his left advanced in front of Preston's right, his right receding, forming an obtuse angle with Preston's line. In his front was a heavy breastwork of logs, on the summit of a slight ridge heavily wooded and strongly held by the enemy's infantry and artillery. His right flank was opposite the angle of this work; his centre, facing towards the northwest, was opposed to the flank of the work, which was perpendicular to the road. On Stewart's right, in front of the face of the work, and parallel to the Chattanooga road, was Cleburne's division, of Hill's corps. Brigadier General Laws' brigade, of Hood's division, was in line perpendicular to the road to the left, and slightly in advance of Preston, and close by the burnt house, (Poe's,) near which was a battery of Hood's artillery. A personal reconnoissance, in company with the Lieutenant General commanding, showed an advantageous position for artillery in front of Poe's burning house, from which point the enemy's main line, which fronted eastward and was situated a little to the east of Kelly's field, was exposed to an enfilade fire, or rather to a fire slightly in reverse. His right flank, as before stated, was thrown back at right angles to the road, and was located behind log breastworks, in the heavy wood between Poe's and Kelly's field's. As the enemy's right had been beaten back, it had, by a conversion on this angle of their work as a pivot, been gradually driven to assume a position also at right angles to the road, his right resting on a chain of heights beginning near Snodgrass' house, about a fourth of a mile west of Kelly's house, on the road, and extending westward about one mile to the Crawfish road. These heights constitute the southern spurs which terminate Mis-





sionary ridge, are covered with open woods, have a gentle but irregular slope on the south, the north and the east, and their summits are fully a hundred feet above the level of the surrounding country. A little after four o'clock, P. M., under instructions from the Lieutenant General commanding, I ordered Preston, with Gracie's and Kelly's brigades, to support Kershaw's brigade in the attack on the heights near Snodgrass' house, sustaining him afterwards by Trigg's brigade. Under the able direction of Brig. Gen. Preston, the first two brigades passed Kershaw's and Anderson's brigades, which had suffered severely in the action, and, with great impetuosity, assailed the enemy in his almost impregnable position. Trigg, on coming up, was directed to the left of Kelly, and, joining in a simultaneous movement of Brigadier General B. R. Johnson's division still farther to the left, pierced and turned the enemy's line, and, in conjunction with Kelly, Gracie and Robertson, drove him from his strong position into the ravines beyond, where a large number of prisoners were captured. For the details of this brilliant action I refer you to the graphic report of Brigadier General Preston. While this action was progressing, the Lieutenant General commanding directed Stewart's division to advance and to aid the combined attack. I ordered, by his authority, Williams' battalion of reserve artillery to be placed in position in front of Poe's house. This was done under the immediate direction of Major Porter, my chief of artillery. About this time the enemy were moving reinforcements to sustain his right, which was staggering under the terrific assault of Preston. Williams, with eleven pieces of artillery, opened upon this reinforcing column with destructive effect, dispersing it in every direction and silencing his artillery. At the same time, Stewart assaulted the enemy's works and captured a number of prisoners, who dared not cross the stream of fire which Williams poured across their path. Stewart, in advancing, also threw forward one of his batteries, which joined in the fire. As he advanced, I conducted Darden's battery, of Williams' artillery, to Kelly's field, but this battery, as well as Stewart's division, it now being nightfall, was withdrawn into the edge of the wood, as we encountered in our advance the right wing of our army, which joined in the assault of the enemy's works, and was moving in a direction perpendicular to our line of march. The continued cheers of the army announced, at dark, that every point of the field had been gained. Stewart bivouacked within the entrenchments he had assaulted; Preston, upon the heights he had so gallantly won.

For the details of the action of which this report is only a brief synopsis, and a notice of individual conduct, I respectfully refer you to the reports of the division, brigade and regimental commanders, and of the chief and battalion commanders of the artillery, which are herewith transmitted.

To the gentlemen of my staff I am indebted for their prompt and gallant discharge of duty on every occasion. No commendation from me can add to the well-earned reputation of Major General Stewart and his able brigadiers—Johnson, who was detached and in command of an improvised division, Brown, Bate and Clayton. They were

worthy leaders of the brave troops, nearly all of them veterans, whom they so gallantly led. Upon Brigadier General Preston and his brigade commanders, Brigadier General Gracie and Colonels Trigg and Kelly, I cannot bestow higher praise than to say, that their conduct and example were such as to convert a body of troops, but few of whom had before been under fire, into a division of veterans in their first battle. Stewart's veterans maintained the reputation they had won, on many fields. Preston's troops emulated their example and equalled them in merit.

The recapitulation of the heavy losses sustained in both divisions is a sad testimony of the soldierly qualities of the survivors. Few troops, who have suffered so heavily, have been victorious on the field of their losses. But the result is only another evidence of the invincible spirit of our people, which, under the guidance of Providence, must finally win us our independence as a nation.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. B. BUCKNER.

*Major General lately commanding Buckner's Corps.*





*General [illegible]*



## REPORT OF MAJOR FRANK PORTER.

HEADQUARTERS BUCKNER'S DIVISION, }  
Near Chattanooga, Nov. 10, 1863. }

To Major WILLIAM F. MARTIN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery of General Buckner's corps, at the battle of Chickamauga, and consisted of Williams' battalion of four batteries; Leyden's battalion of three batteries, and three batteries of Major General Stewart's division, acting with their brigades. Leyden's battalion was attached to Brigadier General Preston's division, and by his order one battery was attached to each of his brigades.

As most of the ground over which the battle was fought was very thickly wooded, we could not see more than three hundred yards to the front, consequently could very seldom use artillery. For this reason the batteries of Major General Stewart's division fired but a few shots, though they were left in exposed positions and lost between twenty and thirty horses. Two of the batteries of Leyden's battalion were engaged Saturday and Sunday, but owing to the thickness of the timber and undergrowth continued but a short time. They were unable to ascertain the damage they inflicted. They suffered but a slight loss themselves. One of his batteries (Jeffries') was held on the extreme left of the original line until the battle ceased. Williams' battalion was kept as reserve, and on Saturday morning was placed in position on the ridge which Preston's division occupied. When Stewart's division was carried to the right of the line, Brigadier General Mackall, General Bragg's chief of staff, ordered that all the artillery that could be spared from the corps should be placed in the position just vacated by General Stewart. In obedience to this order, Major Williams was directed to post two of his batteries there, and remain to repel any assault that the enemy's infantry might make. He remained there several hours, part of the time under a heavy artillery fire which he could not return, as our fuses are so uncertain that he would have run the risk of killing our own men by firing over their heads. He remained there till about sundown, when he was moved back to his former position, where he remained till the left made its move to the front and right on Sunday. He was then ordered to leave Baxter's battery to assist Jeffries in holding the bluff on the extreme left of the line, and move with his three other batteries in rear of Preston's division. After getting to the Chattanooga road, he was placed in several positions to check the expected moves of the enemy, but did not get into action till about five, P. M. This was when Preston's division was in the hottest of the fight, and the enemy was crossing the Chattanooga road in large numbers to reinforce that part of their army holding the hill to the left. Major Williams was then ordered to take position about a thousand yards from where they were crossing and open fire

with his three batteries. This he did, with great execution, silencing the enemy's artillery, cutting off the reinforcements, and enabling the infantry to capture between five and six hundred prisoners. All the officers and men acted, whenever they had an opportunity, of doing so, with courage and coolness. Enclosed are reports of the battalion commanders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS K. PORTER,

*Major and Chief of Artillery.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL A. P. STEWART.

HEADQUARTERS STEWART'S DIVISION, }  
Near Chattanooga, Tenn., October 15, 1863. }

Captain J. N. GALLAHER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: This division, constituting at the time a part of Buckner's corps, with the exception of Johnson's brigade detached, marched, on Thursday morning, September 17th, 1863, from Lafayette, Georgia, in the direction of Chattanooga. We bivouacked for the night on Peavine creek, and resumed the march next morning with Bate's brigade in front, Clayton's following, and Brown's in rear, the column taking the direction to Thedford's ford on the west Chickamauga. Arriving during the afternoon of Friday, the 18th, within a mile or less of the ford, Major General Buckner directed me to occupy the high ground in its vicinity, commanding the approaches to it, but not to bring on an engagement with the enemy, who were near at hand, unless necessary. With the aid of Major Nocquet, of the engineers, Bate's and Clayton's brigades, with their batteries, were placed in position on the wooded heights, respectively, below and above the ford, Brown's being drawn up in reserve in rear of Clayton's. The Eufala battery, Captain Oliver commanding, and Caswell's battalion of sharpshooters, both of Bate's brigade, opened fire upon the enemy, in the direction of Alexander's bridge, who soon retired. Three companies from Clayton's brigade were then sent across the stream to occupy, as skirmishers, a wooded hill beyond, and after nightfall his entire brigade crossed.

Early Saturday morning, the 19th, the other two brigades passed on, and formed in rear of Clayton's. The commanding General coming up soon after, and receiving information that the troops which had crossed the stream lower down had advanced and established their line in front of and nearly at right angles to Preston's, whose division had passed the stream above and was then on my left, General Buckner directed me to move forward and form on the left of this line. This was done, Clayton forming on the left of McNair, whose brigade constituted part of an impromptu division, commanded by Brigadier General B. R. Johnson, Brown and Bate in rear. Preston's division was then formed on my left, also in three lines, all fronting nearly or quite to the west. While in this position the Eufala battery (three-inch rifled guns) was sent forward by General Buckner's order, as I was informed, and opened fire on the enemy's position in front. The enemy replied with shell and round shot, wounding a few of our men. A subsequent change, made also by order of General Buckner, moved us a space equal to brigade front directly to the right. Soon after making this change of position, and, as I supposed, near noon, Major Pollock B. Lee brought me an order from the commanding General to move to the point where firing had commenced, which

seemed to be a considerable distance to the right and somewhat to the rear of us. Before moving I went to General Bragg himself, who was near by, in order to get more specific directions. He informed me that Walker was engaged on the right, was much cut up, and the enemy threatening to turn his flank, that General Polk was in command on that wing, and that I must be governed by circumstances. Moving by the right flank in the direction indicated, from half a mile to a mile, we arrived near a corn-field, beyond which the heaviest firing was heard. Messengers were sent in search of General Polk, but without success, and fearing to lose too much time, I determined to move upon the enemy across the corn-field. Lieutenant W. B. Richmond, aid to General Polk, confirmed me in this design. He came up in search of the General himself, and told me that, from what he knew of the nature of the ground and situation of the enemy, a better point at which to attack them could not be found. Accordingly, Brigadier General Clayton was directed to advance, and it is but just to this excellent officer and his fine brigade to say that they moved forward to this their first engagement with great spirit and alacrity, and in admirable order. Major Hatcher, of my staff, was sent with them to bring me intelligence, and I followed myself until overtaken by an aid of Brigadier General Wright, of Cheatham's division, who informed me that Wright's brigade had been turned by the enemy on its left, its battery captured and the General needed aid. Passing a short distance towards the left, and meeting General Wright he informed me that his brigade had fallen back, leaving his battery in the hands of the enemy. This, at least, was the substance of what he said, according to my recollection. Brigadier General Brown was immediately ordered to advance, and, soon after, it was discovered that Clayton's brigade had obliqued to the left and was moving forward in our front. After a severe engagement of near an hour, during which he sustained a loss of nearly four hundred officers and men, General Clayton withdrew to replenish his exhausted ammunition, and his place was supplied by General Brown. This gallant officer with his veteran command advanced rapidly, driving the enemy before them several hundred yards through a dense undergrowth and routing his first line, driving it back upon his second, which was posted on a slight ridge, and supported by artillery. Advancing upon this line, under a terrific fire from all arms, the enemy were forced from the ridge, which was occupied, but from which the brigade soon withdrew, in consequence of a force of the enemy threatening its right.

After passing the dense undergrowth mentioned, the horses were killed and gunners driven from several field pieces opposite the centre and right of the brigade. Three of them, six-pounder rifled brass pieces, were brought off by Lieutenant Anderson, commanding Dawson's battery, and two others by other troops of the division. The left regiment (twenty-sixth Tennessee) also drove the enemy from another battery, three pieces of which were left between the opposing lines, but were not brought off. The brigade sustained, during this engagement, a heavy loss in officers and men. It being necessary to relieve Brown, Bate's brigade was brought up and received by the ene-



Gen. H. S.





my with as hot a fire as had successively greeted Clayton and Brown. Attacking, however, with their usual impetuosity, they drove the enemy back, forcing him to withdraw his batteries and to abandon one position after another, losing and recapturing a piece of artillery, and wresting from him the flag of the fifty-first Tennessee regiment, Wright's brigade. Clayton's brigade being again brought forward as a support to Bate, the two pressed on, driving the enemy beyond the road leading to Chattanooga. Clayton's brigade, with a portion of Bate's, continued the pursuit for half a mile beyond this road, when, in consequence of threatening movements on the right and left, they fell back leisurely about sunset, reforming on the east side of the road.

In these charges the fifteenth and thirty-seventh Tennessee regiments, Colonel Tyler commanding, captured four pieces of artillery, and Clayton's brigade, aided by the fifty-eighth Alabama, of Bate's brigade, (Colonel Bush Jones commanding,) captured three pieces. During the whole of these several engagements the enemy's fire was very heavy and destructive, and each brigade suffered severely, both in officers and men. Their conduct was most gratifying and needs no praise from me.

As the result of the afternoon's work, to which each brigade contributed its full share, I claim that we rescued the battery of Wright's brigade and the flag of one of his regiments, that twelve pieces of artillery were wrested from the enemy, from two to three hundred prisoners were captured and several hundred stands of small arms secured and sent to the rear, and the enemy's line pierced near its centre and driven back beyond the Chattanooga road. Among the prisoners was Lieutenant Colonel Von Schrader, assistant inspector general on the staff of the Federal General Thomas. Of the artillery actually captured, I am unable to ascertain how many pieces were ultimately secured. After night, Major Eldridge, chief of artillery, sent four pieces and one caisson beyond the Chickamauga.

The men being exhausted, and night approaching, after distributing ammunition, Brown's brigade was formed in front, facing the Chattanooga road; Clayton on the right and facing in that direction, as there were no troops of ours within half a mile of us towards the right. Bate's brigade on the left and in rear of Brown's. During the night a number of stragglers from the ranks of the enemy were picked up and sent to the rear by my skirmishers or pickets. I should have stated that owing to the difficulties of the ground, its advantages being altogether with the enemy, it was found impracticable to use artillery. During the night the enemy were heard constructing defences, and moving artillery towards his left.

After leaving General Bragg, as mentioned, I saw no officer whose rank was superior to my own for the rest of the day. Having been separated from the corps to which the division was attached, a staff officer was sent after night—the earliest moment practicable—to report to Major General Buckner, who directed that we should remain in position until further orders.

Early the next morning, 20th, Lieutenant General Longstreet, who had arrived during the night, came to see me, and informed me that I

would receive my orders on that day directly from him, that the attack was to commence on our extreme right at daylight, was to be followed on the left, and gradually or rather successively to extend to the centre, and that I should move after the division on my right or the one on my left had moved, according to circumstances. Apprising him of the fact that there were no troops to the right, at least within a half mile, he directed me to move something more than a quarter of a mile in that direction. This was done, Brown's brigade forming on the front line on the crest of a slight ridge, and constructing a breast-work of logs; Clayton's a few hundred yards in rear, on a parallel ridge, and Bate with his left resting on Brown's right, his line extending obliquely to the right and rear to prevent the enemy from turning our position, it having been ascertained that the right wing was a very considerable distance to our rear. My division was the right of the left wing commanded by Lieutenant General Longstreet, and McNair's brigade was on the left of Brown's. Subsequently Wood's brigade, of Cleburne's division, was formed on the right, and in prolongation of Brown's, and about nine, A. M., Deshler's was formed on the right of Bate's.

In the meantime, a heavy fire was opened upon us from the enemy's batteries in our immediate front, and but a few hundred yards distant, by which some losses were occasioned. At length, about eleven, A. M., Major Lee, of General Bragg's staff, came to me with an order to advance at once and attack the enemy. I informed him what orders had previously been received, and that no attack had been made on my right. He replied that General Bragg had directed him to pass along the lines and give the order to every division commander to move upon the enemy immediately. Accordingly I arranged with General Wood that he should advance with Brown, which was done without delay. Clayton was moved up immediately to Brown's position, and Bate's right thrown forward to bring him on line with Clayton, when they also advanced to be within supporting distance of Brown and Wood. For several hundred yards both lines pressed on under the most terrible fire it has ever been my fortune to witness. The enemy retired, and our men, though mowed down at every step, rushed on at double-quick until at length the brigade on the right of Brown broke in confusion, exposing him to an enfilade fire. He continued on, however, some fifty to seventy-five yards farther, when his two right regiments gave way in disorder and retired to their original position. His centre and left, however, followed by the gallant Clayton and indomitable Bates, pressed on, passing the corn-field in front of the burnt house, and to a distance of two to three hundred yards beyond the Chattanooga road, driving the enemy within his line of entrenchments and passing a battery of four guns, which were afterwards taken possession of by a regiment from another division. Here new batteries being opened by the enemy on our front and flank, heavily supported by infantry, it became necessary to retire, the command reforming on the ground occupied before the advance.

During this charge, which was truly heroic, our loss was severe. Several valuable officers were killed and wounded. Generals Brown and



Gen. Sherman



Clayton were each struck by spent grape, temporarily disabling the former, and General Bate and several of his staff had their horses killed, the second lost by General Bate that morning. After remaining long enough to reform the lines, to replenish ammunition and rest the men, the command again advanced to the corn-field mentioned above, then moved by the right flank until it formed across a ridge which extended obliquely to the front and right. The enemy were still in position behind a breastwork of logs, a few hundred yards in front of us, and General Buckner coming up, I understood it to be his wish that I should not then attempt to go forward, but to await orders.

In the meantime a severe struggle was going on to the right and left of the field, in one corner of which, near the Chattanooga road, stood Kelly's house.

About five, P. M., an order reached me, by an officer of General Longstreet's staff, to move forward upon the enemy. Brown's brigade, now commanded by Colonel Cook, of the thirty-second Tennessee, was directed to support the artillery placed in position on a hill in the corn-field to our left, and Clayton's and Bate's brigades in the order named, advanced with a cheer and at a double-quick upon the enemy's defences. The enemy gave way, utterly routed, our men dashed over their breastworks pursuing to the edge of the open ground or field around the "Kelly house," where we halted, capturing three or four hundred prisoners, among whom was Major Beattie of the regular army. A prisoner, brought up before the charge was made, stated that the position was held by the division of the Federal General Reynolds. The Eufala battery was brought up and fired the last shots at the retreating foe, who, being taken in flank by our attack, fled from their position in front of the division on our right.

During the night and next morning several thousand stands of small arms, accoutrements, &c., and a large quantity of ammunition were collected by my division, a large portion of which was removed by our ordnance wagons.

Our total loss in the three brigades during Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday, was as follows, viz :

| BRIGADES.                 | Officers. | Men.  | Killed. | Wounded. | Missing. | Total. | Per cent. |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------|---------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Brown's,.....             | 120       | 1,820 | 50      | 426      | 4        | 480    | 22.3      |
| Bate's,.....              | 132       | 1,085 | 66      | 516      | 11       | 593    | 48.7      |
| Clayton's,.....           | 94        | 1,252 | 86      | 585      | 12       | 634    | 42.4      |
| Dawson's Battery,.....    | 3         | 62    | 1       | 6        | 8        | 7      | .....     |
| Eufala Battery,.....      | 2         | 102   | 1       | 12       | .....    | 14     | .....     |
| Humphreys's Battery,..... | 3         | 86    | 1       | 2        | .....    | 8      | .....     |
| Escort Company,.....      | 3         | 32    | .....   | 1        | 1        | 2      | .....     |
|                           | 358       | 4,000 | 205     | 1,499    | 29       | 1,733  | .....     |

Among these were several officers of eminent worth and services,

whose names are mentioned in the reports of brigade commanders. I desire to express my high appreciation of Brigadier Generals Brown, Bate and Clayton, and of their respective commands. Representing the three States of Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, they vied with each other in deeds of high and noble daring. The Confederacy has nowhere braver defenders led by more skillful commanders. It is due to the several members of my staff that I should acknowledge my obligations for their invaluable services, and record my estimate of their personal bearing and conduct in the field.

Major R. A. Hatcher, A. A. General, than whom there is not a more active or faithful officer in the service, displayed throughout his usual intelligence, promptness and cool courage. Major John C. Thompson, A. I. General, and Lieut. S. H. Cabal, A. A. and I. General, were conspicuous for their zeal and disregard of danger. Major J. W. Eldridge, chief of artillery, discharged his duties with energy and skill, bringing the artillery into play, on the few occasions where it was practicable, with judgment and success. My two aids, Lieutenants Bromfield Ridley, Jr., and R. Caruthers Stewart, though very young men, and the latter under fire for the first time, behaved with commendable gallantry.

On Saturday, I was also well served by Mr. John E. Hatcher, a volunteer aid, and private John M. House, a clerk in the adjutant general's office. To chief Surgeon G. B. Thornton, and the medical inspector, Dr. G. W. Burton, I am indebted for the good care of the wounded, and the excellent hospital arrangements provided under their supervision, and for their unremitting attention to their duties. Under the management of Captain J. W. Stewart, ordnance officer, supplies of ammunition were always promptly at hand when needed, and affairs were managed to my entire satisfaction in their respective departments, by Majors John A. Lauderdale, acting quartermaster, and J. D. Cross, acting commissary of subsistence, who are among the most faithful and energetic officers of their branches of service.

My thanks are due to Captain H. L. Foulle, commanding my escort, and who acted as my aid, and to the officers and men of his admirable company for their intelligence, activity and zeal. I have never required a service from the company, nor from any member of it, that was not performed to my entire satisfaction. In conclusion, I desire to express my humble but most grateful acknowledgements to Almighty God for the signal success that crowned our arms. Greatly outnumbered as we were by a skillful and determined foe, our own strong arms and stout hearts could never have secured to us the victory without the Divine favor. Let all the praise be ascribed to His holy name.

Enclosing with this the reports of brigade and regimental commanders, to which I beg to refer for details and for the names of those in their respective commands who entitled themselves to special mention.

I am, Captain, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER P. STEWART,

*Major General.*

The credit of rescuing Carne's battery, of Wright's brigade, is due to Brown's brigade. The flag of the fifty-first Tennessee regiment was recaptured by Bate's brigade.

ALEX. P. STEWART,  
*Major General.*



## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL B. F. CHEATHAM.

HEADQUARTERS CHEATHAM'S DIVISION, POLK'S CORPS,  
*Army of Tennessee, Camp Preston Smith, before Chattanooga,* }  
October 20th, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel GEORGE WM. BRENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant General Army of Tennessee :*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the action of my command at the battle of Chickamauga, and in the subsequent affair resulting in the occupation of Missionary ridge :

The division was composed of Jackson's brigade, Brig. Gen. John K. Jackson; Maney's brigade, Brigadier General George Maney; Smith's brigade, Brigadier General Preston Smith; Wright's brigade, Brigadier General M. J. Wright; Strahl's brigade, Brigadier General O. F. Strahl; Stanford's battery of four guns, Captain T. J. Stanford; Carnes' battery of four guns, Captain W. W. Carnes; Scoggin's battery of four guns, Captain J. Scoggins; Scott's battery of four guns, First Lieutenant Jno. Marsh commanding, and Smith's battery of four guns, First Lieutenant William B. Turner commanding.

In obedience to orders from Lieutenant General Polk, I crossed Chickamauga creek at Hunt's ford on the 19th September, at seven o'clock, A. M., and moved my command by the flank in a northern direction, formed my line of battle, and awaited orders.

At eleven o'clock, A. M., I received orders direct from the General commanding the army, through Lieutenant Parker, of his staff, to move to the extreme right of our line, to the support of Major General Walker, whose division had been for some time warmly engaged and who reported himself as being heavily pressed by the superior numbers of the enemy, who, subsequent events disclosed, had or was, at this time, concentrating the bulk of his forces on our right and in front of Major General Walker's command. Moving rapidly by the right flank, I reached the road leading from Alexander's bridge, and at once formed my command immediately in rear of Major General Walker's line of battle, Jackson's brigade on the right, Smith's in the centre, and Wright's brigade on the left, the whole line supported by Maney's and Strahl's brigades, which were held as reserves. About twelve o'clock, M., I gave the order to advance, at the same time notifying the several brigade commanders that there was no support on the right or left flank, and, after proceeding about one hundred and fifty yards, the line encountered the enemy advancing rapidly in heavy force in pursuit of the retiring columns of Major Gen. Walker. The left and centre of Jackson at once, and in a few moments thereafter the entire line, became engaged, and succeeded in checking the advance of the enemy, and handsomely drove him back, with heavy loss, to the distance of about three-fourths of a mile, where he took shelter behind his breastworks, and, assisted by the arrival of heavy reinforcements, checked the further advance of my line. Without support either on my right or left, and after a severe engagement of







MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE B. THOMAS

two hours, I directed the three brigades to retire for reformation, and ordered Generals Maney and Strahl to occupy and hold the positions vacated by Jackson and Smith and make no attempt to advance. Reaching the positions assigned them, Maney's and Strahl's brigades were attacked in front and on both flanks, by the superior numbers of the enemy and forced to retire and take position in rear of Jackson's and Smith's brigades, which were moved forward in the position held before the advance and on the right and left of Turner's battery. The enemy, flushed with a supposed victory, boldly advanced upon my line and, coming within short range, was checked and forced back in disorder by the well-directed discharges of shell and canister from the guns of Turner's battery. I made no effort to advance my line after this success, for the reason that the enemy's dispositions on my right and left flank, and from information derived from prisoners captured, satisfied me that the entire corps of the Federal General Thomas, reinforced by the divisions of Vancleve and Palmer, were in my front. I deemed it prudent, therefore, to simply hold my position, and await the arrival of reinforcements. The result of this engagement of about three hours' duration, against such heavy odds, with both flanks exposed, was, that my command successfully checked the advance of the enemy, whose purpose seemed to be to seize the crossing of the Chickamauga at Alexander's bridge and Hunt's ford. This result was attended with a heavy loss of officers and men, as is attested by the long list of casualties heretofore furnished to the commanding General, and by numerous exhibitions of good conduct on the part of officers and men, particular mention of which is made in the reports of the several brigade commanders, which are herewith forwarded. I cannot, however, forbear to refer to the important service rendered by Lieutenant William B. Turner, commanding battery. Posted on an elevation commanding the approach of the enemy, he used his advantage with great effect, and displayed a degree of efficiency in the service of his guns highly commendable to himself, his officers and men, and accomplished a result, the importance of which it is difficult to estimate. Three pieces of Scoggin's battery were at the same time engaged, and rendered excellent service.

Jackson's brigade, during this engagement, took from the enemy three pieces of his artillery and sent them to the rear. Scoggin's battery, of this brigade, in retiring, under orders, had the horses of one piece and one caisson disabled and left them in the hands of the enemy. The piece and caisson were, however, subsequently recaptured.

Wright's brigade, occupying the extreme left of my line, after a sharp conflict of two hours' duration, was found to be exposed to a severe fire on the left flank and forced to retire. Carnes' battery, doing duty with this brigade, after losing one half of its men and horses, was abandoned on the field, but the enemy was unable to remove the guns, and they were recaptured, uninjured, in the advance of the next day.

At six o'clock, P. M., the division of Major General Cleburne arrived on the field, and, with my command, was ordered by Lieutenant

General Polk to attack the enemy at once. My entire command advanced, under a heavy fire of musketry for about six hundred yards, the enemy yielding and giving way to our approach. At this point, orders were given to make no further advance and the firing abruptly ceased, when my lines were reformed and the division bivouacked in line of battle.

In this night attack, Jackson's and Smith's brigades only, of my command, encountered the enemy. Three hundred of the enemy were captured by Smith's brigade and sent to the rear, and the colors of the seventy-seventh Pennsylvania regiment were captured by Colonel now Brigadier General A. J. Vaughan, Jr. It was in this night attack that Brigadier General Preston Smith, of Tennessee, received his mortal wound, from which he died in fifty minutes. At the head of his noble brigade, of which he had been the commander, as colonel and brigadier general, for two years and a half, he fell in the performance of what he himself, with his expiring breath, simply said was his duty. Active, energetic and brave, with a rare fitness to command, full of honorable ambition, in perfect harmony with the most elevated patriotism, the whole country will mourn his fall and do honor to his memory. Two of his staff, Captain John Donelson, acting assistant adjutant general, and Captain Thomas H. King, acting aid-de-camp, both officers of excellent merit, were killed within a few minutes of General Smith.

During the night of the 19th September, I was notified by Lieutenant General Polk that the attack would be renewed at daylight. My command was already formed and in expectation of orders to advance at the appointed hour, but, for reasons thus unknown to me, no advance was made until nine o'clock, A. M. When in the act of advancing my line, I discovered that my front was partially covered by Major General Stewart's division, and, communicating the fact in person to the General commanding the army, was by him directed not to advance, but to hold my command as a reserve. No part of my command, except Jackson's brigade, was engaged in the active operations of the 20th September, until the hour of six, P. M.

About eleven o'clock, A. M., of the 20th September, Brigadier General Jackson received orders from the General commanding the army to go to the support of Lieutenant General Hill. For an account of the action of this brigade, whilst detached from my command, your attention is directed to the report of Brigadier General Jackson.

At two o'clock, P. M., I received orders to proceed with my command to the extreme right of our line, where I remained until six, P. M., when a general advance of the whole line was ordered. Jackson's brigade, on the left of General Walker, was now actively engaged, and his ammunition being nearly exhausted, General Maney, with his brigade, was ordered to relieve him. Wright's brigade was ordered to form on Maney's right, and to advance with the entire line, now in motion. These brigades encountered but slight resistance. The enemy, now fiercely assailed at all points, yielded the field to us and fled in disorder.

At two o'clock, P. M., on the 21st, I moved my command in the

direction of Chickamauga station, and bivouacked for the night near the old Mission house, on Chickamauga creek.

Early on the morning of the following day, I was directed by Lieutenant General Polk to move in the direction of Chattanooga, and arrived at the foot of Missionary ridge at ten o'clock, A. M. I soon ascertained that the enemy occupied the crest of the ridge in force. After making the necessary reconnoissances, Maney's brigade on the right, and Smith's on the left, the latter was now commanded by Colonel A. J. Vaughan, were deployed and ordered to carry the position held by the enemy, which was done, after a spirited engagement of a few minutes—the position found to be one of much natural strength, increased by breastworks made of stone and fallen timber, but the enemy, now demoralized by a succession of disasters, made but a feeble resistance, and fled in great haste.

In concluding this report, I beg to mention an act of daring and heroism on the part of Colonel S. S. Stanton, of the twenty-eighth Tennessee volunteers. During the engagement of the 19th, his regiment, exposed to a close and heavy fire, wavered for a moment, and seemed to be in the act of falling back, when the intrepid Colonel seized the colors of his regiment and, rushing to the front, called his men to follow him. Inspired by his heroic example, the regiment reformed on the colors and at once recovered the ground they had lost. Whilst the colors were in the hands of Col. Stanton, they were pierced thirty times by the enemy's balls.

The officers of my staff, Major James D. Porter, Jr., assistant adjutant general; Major John Ingram, assistant adjutant general; Major Melanthen Smith, chief of artillery; Major Joseph Vanlx, Jr., assistant adjutant general; Captain Thomas F. Henry, assistant inspector general; Dr. F. Rice, chief surgeon; Lieutenant F. H. McNairy, aid-de-camp; Lieutenant J. Webb Smith, aid-de-camp; Major S. H. Brooks and A. L. Robertson, volunteer aids-de-camp; Maj. John A. Cheatham, chief of ordnance; Maj. G. V. Young, chief quartermaster; Major B. J. Butler, chief commissary, all deserve honorable mention for the proper performance of the duties assigned them.

My escort, company G, second Georgia cavalry, Captain T. M. Merritt, were, under my orders, employed in collecting the small arms abandoned by the enemy, and deserve honorable mention for the industrious performance of their duty.

Respectfully, Colonel, your obedient servant,

B. F. CHEATHAM,

*Major General Commanding.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION, HILL'S CORPS, }  
October, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel ARCHER ANDERSON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the operations of my division in the battle of Chickamauga, on the 19th and 20th of September last:

It was composed of the second, fourth, sixth and ninth Kentucky, and forty-first Alabama regiments, with Cobb's battery, under the command of Brigadier General B. H. Helm; the thirteenth, twentieth, sixteenth, twenty-fifth and nineteenth Louisiana, thirty-second Alabama and Austin's battalion of sharpshooters, with Slocumb's battery, (fifth Washington artillery,) under the command of Brigadier General Daniel Adams; the first, third and fourth Florida, forty-seventh Georgia and sixtieth North Carolina regiments, with Mabane's battery, under the command of Brigadier General M. A. Stovall. My effective strength was, of enlisted men, three thousand three hundred and ninety-five. Total, three thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine.

At daylight of the 18th my command moved from Cutlett's gap and that neighborhood, in the Pigeon mountain, and the same afternoon took position on the east bank of the Chickamauga, near Glass' mills, and composed the extreme left of the infantry of the army. I immediately threw the second Kentucky across the ford to skirmish with the enemy and reveal his position, the sixth Kentucky being placed in close supporting distance at the mill. Adams' brigade was sent, by order of Lieutenant General Hill, to a ford a mile and-a-half above, where the enemy, as the cavalry reported, threatened to cross. It was so late when these dispositions were made that nothing satisfactory was developed that night.

On the morning of the 19th Slocumb, with four guns, Cobb, with two, and the remainder of Helm's brigade were moved across Glass' ford to ascertain the position of the enemy, while the two rifled pieces of Slocumb's battery, under Lieutenant Vaught, took position on a bluff upon the east side of the stream. An artillery engagement ensued, much to our advantage, until the enemy, who occupied the better position, brought forward a number of heavy guns and showed the greater weight of metal. While the engagement was progressing, I received an order from Lieutenant General Hill to withdraw my command, if it could be done without too great peril, and take position about three miles south of Lee & Gordon's mill, on the road leading from Chattanooga to Lafayette, and so as to cover the approach to that road from Glass' mill and the ford above, leaving a regiment and section of artillery to observe those crossings.

The movement was made in good order, Colonel Dilworth, with the



first and third (consolidated) Florida and a section of Cobb's battery, being left in observation. Our casualties, which fell upon Slocumb, Cobb and Helm, were twenty-two killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy in killed alone, as shown by an examination of the ground after the 20th, was nearly equal to the sum of our casualties. Although the enemy was in considerable strength at the fords above referred to, the result showed that it was a covering force to columns passing down the valley to unite with the centre and left of his army. Soon after taking up the new position, I was ordered to relieve Brigadier General Patton Anderson's division, which was facing the enemy opposite Lee & Gordon's mill. The troops marched rapidly, yet it was late in the afternoon before this movement was completed. The division was hardly in position when I received an order from the General commanding the army to move to the right, cross the Chickamauga at a point further down and occupy a position to be indicated. The division crossed at Alexander's bridge, and arriving, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, at a field about a mile and a half in rear of the right of our line of battle, bivouacked there by order of Lieutenant General Polk. Remaining some time at Lieutenant General Polk's camp-fire, I left there two hours before daylight (the 20th) to place my command in position. During the night General Polk informed me that I was to prolong the line of battle upon the right of Major General Cleburne. Conducted by Major ———, of his staff, and Lieutenant Reed, and de-camp to General Hill, my division reached Cleburne's right a little after daybreak. Upon the re-adjustment of his line, I forced on his right and became the extreme right of the general line of battle. Helm was on the left of my line, Stovall in the centre, and Adams on the right, the last extending across a country road leading from Reed's bridge and striking the Chattanooga road at a place called Glenn's farm. The country was wooded, with small openings, and the ground unknown to me. Our skirmishers, a few hundred yards in advance, confronted those of the enemy. Our line was supposed to be parallel to the Chattanooga road.

Soon after sunrise, I received a note from Lieutenant General Polk directing me to advance, and about the same time Major General Cleburne, who happened to be with me, received one of the same tenor. Lieutenant General Hill having arrived, the notes were placed in his hands. By his order, the movement was delayed for the troops to get their rations and on other accounts.

Dilworth, who had been relieved by a cavalry force late the preceding evening and who had marched all night, now arrived and took his place in line.

At half past nine, A. M., by order of Lieutenant General Hill, I moved my division forward in search of the enemy. At the distance of seven hundred yards we came upon him in force, and the battle was opened by Helm's brigade with great fury. The second and ninth Kentucky, with three companies of the forty-first Alabama, encountered the left of a line of breastworks before reaching the Chattanooga road and, though assailing them with great courage, were compelled to pause. From some cause, the line on my left had

not advanced simultaneously with my division, and in consequence, from the form of the enemy's works, these brave troops were, in addition to the fire in front, subjected to a severe enfilading fire from the left. Twice they renewed the assault with the utmost resolution, but were too weak to storm the position. The rest of Helm's brigade, in whose front there were no woods, after a short, but sharp engagement, routed a line of the enemy, pursued it across the Chattanooga road, and captured a section of artillery posted in the centre of the road. This portion of the brigade was now brought under a heavy front and enfilading fire, and, being separated from its left and without support, I ordered Colonel Joseph H. Lewis, of the sixth Kentucky, who succeeded to the command upon the fall of General Helm, to withdraw the troops some two hundred yards to the rear, to reunite the brigade and change his front slightly, to meet the new order of things by throwing forward his right and retiring his left. The movement was made without panic or confusion.

This was one of the bloodiest encounters of the day. Here Gen. Helm, ever ready for action and endeared to his command by his many virtues, received a mortal wound, while in the heroic discharge of his duty. Colonel Hewitt, of the second Kentucky, was killed, acting gallantly, at the head of his regiment. Captain Maderia, Captain Rogers, and Captain Leedman, of the second; Captain Daniel, of the ninth Kentucky, and many other officers and men, met their deaths before the enemy's works; while Colonel Nuckols, of the fourth Kentucky, Colonel Caldwell, of the ninth, and many more officers and men, were wounded.

In the meantime, Adams and Stovall advanced steadily, driving back two lines of skirmishers. Stovall halted at the Chattanooga road. Adams, after dispersing a regiment and capturing a battery, crossed the road at Glenn's farm, and halted a short distance beyond, in an open field. When Helm's brigade was checked, and I had given Colonel Lewis orders in reference to his new position, I rode to the commands of Adams and Stovall on the right. It was now evident from the comparatively slight resistance they had encountered, and the fact that they were not threatened in front, that our line had extended beyond the enemy's left. I at once ordered these brigades to change front perpendicular to the original line of battle, and with the left of Adams, and the right of Stovall resting on the Chattanooga road, to advance upon the flank of the enemy. Slocumb's battery, which had previously done good service, was posted on favorable ground on the west of the road to support the movement. The brigades advanced in fine order over a field, and entered the woods beyond. Stovall soon encountered the extreme left of the enemy's works, which, retiring from the general north and south direction of his entrenchments, extended westwardly nearly to the Chattanooga road. After a severe and well contested conflict, he was checked and forced to retire. Adams, on the west of the road, met two lines of the enemy, who had improved the short time to bring up reinforcements and reform nearly at a right angle to the troops in his main line of works.



The first line was routed, but it was found impossible to break the second, aided as it was by artillery, and after a sanguinary contest, which reflected high honor on the brigade, it was forced back in some confusion. Here General Adams, who is as remarkable for his judgment on the field as for his courage, was severely wounded and fell into the hands of the enemy. Among the casualties, Lieutenant Colonel Turner, of the nineteenth Louisiana, was wounded, and the gallant Major Butler, of the same regiment, was killed.

Stovall had gained a point beyond the angle of the enemy's main line of works. Adams had advanced still farther, being actually in rear of his entrenchments. A good supporting line to my division at this moment would probably have produced decisive results. As it was, the engagement on our right had inflicted on the enemy heavy losses, and compelled him to weaken other parts of his line to hold his vital point. Adams' brigade reformed behind Slocumb's battery, which repulsed the enemy by a rapid and well-directed fire, rendering on this occasion important and distinguished services.

By order of Lieutenant General Hill, my division was withdrawn a short distance to recruit, while the troops of Major General Walker engaged the enemy. My new line was about six hundred yards in advance of the position on which I first formed in the morning, with a slight change of direction, which brought my right relatively nearer to the Chattanooga road.

Soon after taking this position, an attack was reported on our right flank. It proved to be Granger's corps coming up from Rossville, and threatening our right with a part of his force. At the request of Brigadier General Forrest, I sent him a section of Cobb's battery, under the command of Lieutenant Gracey, who assisted handsomely in repelling the enemy.

At the request of the brigade commanders, the artillery of the division had been ordered to report to the brigades with which they were accustomed to serve. Cobb's battery, from the nature of the ground, could not participate to its accustomed extent, yet, as opportunity afforded, it displayed its accustomed gallantry. The excellent battery of Captain Mabane, for the same reason, was able to take little part in the action.

The afternoon was waning and the enemy still obstinately confronted us in his entrenchments. I received permission from Lieutenant General Hill to make another charge. A line of troops on my right, and covering a part of my front, advanced at the same time. A portion of these troops obliqued to the right, and my line passed through the rest, who seemed to be out of ammunition, so that after moving a few hundred yards the enemy alone was in my front. The division was advanced with intrepidity, under a severe fire, and dashed over the left of the entrenchments. In passing them, I saw on my left the right of Major General Cleburne, whose brave division stormed the centre. Several hundred of the enemy ran through our lines to the rear; the rest were pursued several hundred yards, and beyond the Chattanooga road. Of these some were killed and a good many taken prisoners, but most of them escaped in the darkness.

It was now night ; pursuit was stopped by order of General Hill, and, throwing out pickets, I bivouacked in line, near the road.

The prisoners taken by my command during the day, of whom there was a considerable number, were allowed to go to the rear, since details could not be spared for them, and it was known they would be gathered up there.

The division captured nine pieces of artillery. I am aware that it is usually the whole army, not a part of it, that takes guns from the enemy, and that often the troops who obtain possession of them owe their good fortune quite as much to fire from the right and left as to their own efforts ; yet I think it due to my command to say that, in regard to at least six of these guns, such considerations do not apply, and that they were taken without assistance from any other troops.

My total casualties, as shown by official reports, amounted to twelve hundred and forty, of which number one hundred and sixty-six were killed, nine hundred and nine wounded, and one hundred and sixty-five missing.

To Brigadier General Stovall, to Colonel Lewis, who succeeded to the command of Helin's brigade, and to Colonel R. L. Gibson, who succeeded to the command of Adams' brigade, the country is indebted for the courage and skill with which they discharged their arduous duties.

The officers and men of the division, with exceptions so rare as to place in striking contrast to them the general good conduct, sustained their former reputation, and were alike worthy of each other.

To the gentlemen of my staff, I feel sincere gratitude for the prompt, fearless, and cheerful manner in which they discharged their duties. Major Wilson, assistant adjutant general ; Colonel Van Zinken, A. A. G., who had two horses shot under him ; Captain Martin, A. I. G., who received a contusion from a grape shot ; Lieutenant Breckinridge, aid-de-camp, whose horse was shot ; Captain Semple, ordnance officer ; Lieutenant Bertus, (twentieth Louisiana,) A. A. I. G. ; Dr. Heustis, chief surgeon ; Dr. Kratz, on duty in the field, and Messrs. McGehee, Coleman, Mitchell, and Clay, volunteers on my staff, performed their duties in a manner to command my confidence and regard.

One member of my staff I cannot thank. Major R. E. Graves, chief of artillery, received a mortal wound in the action of Sunday, the 20th. Although a very young man, he had won eminence in arms, and he gave promise of the highest distinction. A truer friend, a purer patriot, a better soldier never lived.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE.

*Major General A. C. S.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL P. R. CLEBURNE.

HEADQUARTERS CLEBURNE'S DIVISION, HILL'S CORPS,  
Missionary Ridge, near Chattanooga, }  
October 18, 1863. }

To Lieutenant Colonel ARCHER ANDERSON,  
Assistant Adjutant General Hill's Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the operations of my division in the battle of Chickamauga, fought on Saturday and Sunday, the 19th and 20th of September, 1863:

During the afternoon of Saturday, the 19th ultimo, I moved my division in a westerly direction across the Chickamauga river, at Ledford's ford, and having received orders to report to Lieutenant General Polk, commanding the right wing of the army, I did so, and was directed by him to form a second line in rear of the right of the line already in position. Accordingly, soon after sunset, my division was formed, partially *en echelon*, about three hundred yards in rear of the right line. My right rested in front of a steam saw mill, known as Jay's mill, situated on a small stream running between the Chickamauga and the road leading from Chattanooga to Lafayette. My line extended from the saw mill almost due south for nearly a mile, fronting to the west. Polk's brigade, with Calvert's battery, commanded by Lieutenant Thomas J. Key, composed my right wing; Wood's brigade, with Semple's battery, my centre and Deshler's brigade, with Douglass' battery, my left wing. I now received orders from Lieutenant General Hill to advance, passing over the line which had been repulsed, and drive back the enemy's left wing. In my front were open woods, with the exception of a clearing (fenced in) in front of my centre, the ground sloping upwards as we advanced. Ordering the brigades to direct themselves by Wood's (the centre) brigade, and preserve brigade distance, I moved forward, passing over the first line, and was in a few moments heavily engaged along my right and centre. The enemy, posted behind hastily constructed breastworks, opened a heavy fire of both small arms and artillery. For half an hour the firing was the heaviest I had ever heard; it was dark, however, and accurate shooting was impossible. Each party was aiming at the flashes of the other's guns, and few of the shot from either side took effect. Major Hotchkiss, my chief of artillery, placed Polk's and Wood's artillery in position in the cleared field in front of my centre. Availing themselves of the noise and the darkness, Captain Semple and Lieutenant Key ran their batteries forward within sixty yards of the enemy's line and opened a rapid fire. Polk pressed forward at the same moment on the right, when the enemy ceased firing and quickly disappeared from my front. There was some confusion at the time, necessarily inseparable, however, from a night attack. This and the difficulty of moving my artillery through the woods in the dark, rendered a further advance inexpedient for the night. I con-

sequently halted and, after readjusting my lines, threw out skirmishers a quarter of a mile in advance, and bivouacked. In this conflict, the enemy was driven back about a mile and a half. He left in my hands two or three pieces of artillery, several caissons, two or three hundred prisoners, and the colors of the seventy-seventh Indiana and those of the seventy-ninth Pennsylvania.

At about ten o'clock, next morning, I received orders from Lieutenant General Hill to advance and dress on the line of Gen. Breckinridge, who had been placed on my right. Accordingly, directing each brigade to dress upon the right and preserve its distance, I moved forward. Breckinridge was already in motion. The effort to overtake and dress upon him caused hurry and some confusion in my line, which was necessarily a long one. Before the effects of this could be rectified, Polk's brigade, and the right of Wood's encountered the heaviest artillery fire I have ever experienced. I was now within short canister range of a line of log breastworks, and a hurricane of shot and shell swept the woods from the unseen enemy in my front. This deadly fire was direct, and came from that part of the enemy's breastworks opposite to my right and right centre. The rest of my line, stretching off to the left, received an oblique fire from the line of breastworks which, at a point opposite my centre, formed a retiring angle, running off towards the Chattanooga and Lafayette road behind. The accompanying map, showing the shape of the enemy's line of works opposite my line, will explain our relative positions. Upon reference to it, it will be seen that opposite to my right and right centre the enemy's works ran about a half a mile north and south, and nearly parallel to the Chattanooga and Lafayette road, which was about three hundred yards behind; that at a point opposite my centre his works formed, as before stated, a retiring angle, running in a westerly and somewhat oblique direction to the Chattanooga and Lafayette road; and that at a point nearly opposite my right, his works formed another retiring angle, running back also to the road. My right and right centre, consisting of Polk's brigade and Lowry's regiment of Wood's brigade, were checked within one hundred and seventy-five yards of the advance part of this portion of the enemy's works, and the rest of the line were halted in compliance with the order previously given, to dress upon the right. Passing towards the left at this time, I found that the line of advance of my division which was the left of the right wing of the army, converged with the line of advance of the left wing of the army; the flanks of the two wings had already come in collision, part of Wood's brigade had passed over Bate's brigade, of Stewart's division, which was the right of the left wing, and Deshler's brigade, which formed my left, had been thrown out entirely, and was in rear of the left wing of the army. I ordered Wood to move forward the remainder of his brigade, opening at the same time in the direction of the enemy's fire with Semple's battery. That part of Wood's brigade to the left of Lowry's regiment, and to the left of the southern angle of the breastworks in its advance at this time, entered an old field, bordering the Chattanooga and Lafayette road, and attempted to cross it in the face of a

heavy fire from works in its front; it had almost reached the road, its left being at Poe's house, (known as the burning house,) when it was driven back by a heavy oblique fire of small arms and artillery, which was opened upon both its flanks; the fire from the right coming from the south face of the breastworks, which was hid from view by the thick growth of scrub oaks bordering the field. Five hundred men were killed and wounded by this fire in a few minutes. Upon this repulse, Lowry's regiment having also in the meantime been forced to retire, I ordered the brigade still further back to reform. Semple's battery, which had no position, I also ordered back. I now moved Deshler's brigade by the right flank, with the intention of connecting it with Polk's left, so filling the gap left in my centre by the withdrawal of Wood. This connection, however, I could not establish, as Polk's left had, in its turn been also driven back. Finding it a useless sacrifice of life for Polk to retain his position, I ordered him to fall back with the rest of his line, and with his and Wood's brigades I took up a strong defensive position, some three or four hundred yards in rear of the point from which they had been repulsed. Deshler's brigade had moved forward towards the right of the enemy's advanced works, but could not go beyond the crest of a low ridge from which Lowry had been repulsed, I therefore ordered him to cover himself behind the ridge and hold his position as long as possible. His brigade was now *en echelon* about four hundred yards in front of the left of the rest of the division, which here rested for some hours. In effecting this last disposition of his command General Deshler fell, a shell passing fair through his chest. It was the first battle in which this gentleman had the honor of commanding as a general officer. He was a brave and efficient one. He brought always to the discharge of his duty a warm zeal and a high conscientiousness. The army and the country will long remember him.

At about half-past three o'clock, P. M., I received orders from Lieutenant General Polk to move forward on a line with my left, Deshler connecting my right with Jackson's brigade, and, when I had formed my line, to remain and hold the position. I accordingly advanced with my centre and right wing, drove in the enemy's skirmishers, and forced his line behind the works from which he had repulsed us in the morning. The left wing of the army had been driving the enemy; the right wing now attacked. Lieutenant General Polk ordering me to advance my heavy batteries and open on the enemy, Captain Semple, my acting chief of artillery, (Major Hotchkiss, my chief of artillery, being disabled by a wound received the day before,) selected positions in front of the line, and placed his own and Douglass' batteries within two hundred yards of the enemy's breastworks, and opened a rapid and most effective fire, silencing immediately a battery which had been playing upon my lines. About the same time, Brigadier General Polk charged and soon carried the northwestern angle of the enemy's works, taking, in succession, three lines of breastworks. In these brilliant operations he was materially aided by Key's battery, and towards its close by Douglass' battery, which had again been moved by my orders to my extreme right, where



it was run into position by hand. A large number of prisoners (regulars) were here captured. The enemy abandoned his works and retired precipitately. Brigadier General Polk pursued to the Chatanooga and Lafayette road, where he captured another piece of artillery. I here received directions from Lieut. Gen. Hill to halt my command until further orders. I cannot close this report without an acknowledgment of distinguished services rendered by various officers and men, which would otherwise pass unnoticed. I have already incidentally called attention to the gallant conduct of Brigadier General Polk, but it is due to him and to the country, which wishes to appreciate its faithful servants, to say that to the intrepidity and stern determination of purpose of himself and men I was principally indebted for the success of the charge on Sunday evening, which drove the enemy from his breastworks and gave us the battle. Colonel Milla, also, is entitled to be remembered. Leading his regiment through the battle until the fall of his brigadier, the lamented Deshler, he was then called by seniority to command the brigade, which he did with gallantry and intelligence.

To my staff, Major Calhoun Benham, assistant adjutant general, (who received a contusion in the right shoulder from a grape shot or fragment of shell;) Captain Irving A. Buck, assistant adjutant general, (whose horse was shot under him;) Major Joseph K. Dixon, assistant inspector general; Captain B. F. Phillips, assistant inspector general; Lieutenant J. W. Jetton, aid-de-camp and acting assistant inspector general; Major T. R. Hotchkiss, chief of artillery, who received a wound from a minie ball in the foot on Saturday, which deprived me of his valuable services afterwards; Capt. Henry C. Semple, who replaced Major Hotchkiss as chief of artillery, when disabled; Capt. C. F. Vandeford, chief of ordnance; Lieut. L. H. Mangum, aid-de-camp, and Lieut. S. P. Hanly, aid de-camp, (who received a contusion from a grape shot.) I am indebted for the faithful and indefatigable manner in which they performed their vital, though perhaps not showy, duties throughout these operations. Major T. R. Hotchkiss, chief of artillery; Captain Semple, with his battery, and Lieutenant Thomas J. Key, commanding Calvert's battery, rendered invaluable service, and exhibited the highest gallantry on Saturday night in running their pieces up, as they did, within sixty yards of the enemy. In this they were ably sustained by Lieutenant Richard Goldthwaite, of Semple's battery. Here Major Hotchkiss received his wound. Captain Semple also displayed skill and judgment as acting chief of artillery, particularly in the selection of a position for his own and Douglass' batteries on Sunday evening, which gave an oblique fire upon the enemy in his works, contributing to the success of the final charge by Polk's brigade. Captain O. S. Palmer, assistant adjutant general of Wood's brigade, was conspicuous for his coolness and attention to duty on the field, and has my thanks. I am much indebted also to Dr. A. Linthicum, chief surgeon of my division. The completeness of his arrangements, his careful supervision of subordinates, both on the field, under fire, and elsewhere, and in the hospital, secured our gallant wounded prompt attention, and all the alleviation

of pain attainable in the exigencies of battle. Surgeon A. R. Erskine (then acting, now actual medical inspector of my division) rendered most efficient service. Ass't Surgeon, Alfred B. DeLoach particularly distinguished himself by his unselfish devotion, going repeatedly far forward under fire, and among the skirmishers, to attend the wounded. James P. Brady and Melvin Overstreet, privates in the Buckner Guards, (my escort,) specially detailed to attend me through the battle, went with me wherever my duty called me. Brady was wounded in the hand. Overstreet had his horse shot. To Captain C. F. Vandeford, my chief of ordnance, my thanks are specially due. His trains were always in the best order, and in the most accessible position, and to his care in this respect I am indebted for a prompt supply of ammunition in every critical emergency which arose. I carried into action on Saturday, the 19th, five thousand one hundred and fifteen officers and men, four thousand eight hundred and seventy-five bayonets. On Sunday, the 20th. I carried in four thousand six hundred and seventy-one officers and men, four thousand four hundred and thirty-seven bayonets. In the two days my casualties were two hundred and four killed, fifteen hundred and thirty-nine wounded, six missing, making in all one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine.

Respectfully,

P. R. CLEBURNE,

*Major General.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL T. C. HINDMAN.

ATLANTA, GA., October 25, 1863.

Lieutenant Colonel G. M. SOHRFL.

*A. A. General Longstreet's Corps :*

COLONEL: Sickness prevented me from exercising command on Saturday, September 19th, until about three, P. M. My division had then just crossed the Chickamauga at Hunt's ford, and was soon after ordered to the support of Major General Hood. The order was executed under a heavy artillery fire from the enemy, causing some loss. My position was on Hood's left and Buckner's right, near the centre of the left wing of the army, facing west, parallel with the Lafayette and Chattanooga road, six or eight hundred yards distant. The brigades of Deas and Manigault constituted my first line, and Anderson's my reserve. Nothing important happened during the remainder of the day. After dark, in the readjustment of my line, a sharp skirmish occurred on Manigault's left, the enemy retiring.

About eleven, A. M., on Sunday, September 20th, under orders from Lieutenant General Longstreet, commanding the left wing, my command moved forward simultaneously with the troops on my right. At the distance of three hundred yards, skirmishing commenced and immediately my whole line was engaged. Rushing on at the double-quick, through a storm of bullets, shot and shell, Deas' brave Alabamians and Manigault's Alabamians and South Carolinians, equally brave, drove the enemy from his breastworks, then pushed him beyond the Lafayette road, and charged his second line of breastworks three hundred yards further on. The troops on Manigault's left not advancing with him, he was enfiladed on that flank by infantry and artillery, checked, and at length forced to retire. One gun of his battery, temporarily disabled, was left exposed to capture, when Colonel J. C. Reid's twenty-eighth Alabama gallantly faced about and brought it off in safety.

Deas swept like a whirlwind over the breastworks. Anderson's fearless Mississippians carrying the breastworks in their front, moved up rapidly on his left, to Manigault's place. Without halting, these two brigades then drove the enemy across the Crawfish Spring road and up the broken spurs of Missionary ridge, to its first elevation, one hundred yards west. Hiding behind this, the enemy opened a tremendous fire of musketry and cannon upon our line as it advanced, and at the same time enfiladed it from an eminence in a field on the right. But, without faltering, he was charged, driven from his strong position, and pursued upwards of three-quarters of a mile, when he ceased resisting and disappeared, going north, completely routed. A body of Federal cavalry, covering the retreat of the infantry, made a demonstration against my right, but retired hastily when about to be attacked.







Painted by F. Wilson

PHILIP S. SHERIDAN

Phil. S. Sheridan





Meantime Manigault sent back for and received the support of Trigg's brigade, of Buckner's corps, and, with it, compelled the rapid retreat of the force in his front.

The fifteenth Alabama regiment, of General Law's command, which had lost its direction, fired on Deas' right, but upon discovering the mistake, moved up and fought gallantly with him.

I now sent staff officers to the right and left, and ascertained that my advance was nearly a mile further west than any other troops of the left wing, none of which had yet reached the Crawfish Spring road. To my right and rear there was hot firing. I determined to move there, and gave the necessary orders directing the command to march northeast to the Lafayette road, till the position of our troops then engaged should be ascertained. This was to avoid the possibility of collision with friendly forces, and to gain time for reforming portions of my command disordered by their rapid pursuit of the enemy.

In the splendid advance which I have attempted to describe, through woods and fields and over a part of Missionary ridge, against the troops of Sheridan's and J. C. Davis' divisions, seventeen pieces of Federal artillery were captured by my division, fourteen of which were taken into possession and conveyed to the rear by Captain Waters, acting chief of artillery, and three pieces by Major Riby, chief of ordnance. Since the battle, I have been informed that a staff officer from army headquarters found ten pieces abandoned in a gorge in front of my position, west of the Crawfish Spring road. The number of prisoners exceeded eleven hundred, including three colonels. The ground was strewn with small arms, of which fourteen hundred were collected. Five or six standards, five caissons and one battery wagon, one ambulance, about forty horses and mules, and nine ordnance wagons, with one hundred and sixty-five thousand rounds of ammunition, were also secured. The numerous wounded and dead of the enemy fell into our hands. Among the latter was Brigadier General Lytle, of the Federal army, killed by Deas' brigade.

While moving to the right and rear, I was met by a staff officer of Brigadier General Buehrod Johnston, and afterwards by that officer himself, stating that he was hard pressed and must have support forthwith or he would be compelled to fall back. I immediately placed Anderson's brigade under his orders.

Deas, who was out of ammunition, obtained a partial supply from Johnston's wagons, and then marched west across the Crawfish Spring road and formed line of battle, facing west, at the top of the first ridge beyond. His skirmishers became engaged immediately with those of a force of the enemy occupying the next ridge. Manigault, now coming up, was directed to form on Deas' right. I believed the force in my front to be the same that I had previously routed, making its way toward Chattanooga and designed cutting it off and capturing it. But at this juncture, before Manigault's line had been established, brisk firing had commenced to my right and rear, east of the Crawfish Spring road, and I received from General Johnston urgent requests for further support. Deas and Manigault at once moved in that di-

rection and formed on his left. Previous to their arrival the firing had ceased.

General Johnston's line faced nearly north, about perpendicular to the Lafayette road and to our original line of battle. It was the side of an extremely rough and steep projection of Missionary ridge, near Dyer's farm, and was extended eastwardly by the lines of Anderson and Kershaw. The height terminated in an open field, near Kershaw's right. It was elsewhere densely wooded. The enemy held the summit in strong force, his artillery planted on sundry sudden elevations rising up like redoubts; his infantry between these, behind the crest, and further sheltered by breastworks of trees and rocks.

At three, P. M., a force of the enemy, probably that which I had recently confronted west of the Crawfish Spring road, appeared on my left, capturing several men of my infirmiry corps and others who had fallen out from fatigue or wounds. I was apprehensive of an attack in rear, and sent to General Longstreet and General Buckner for reinforcements. At the same time, being the officer of highest rank present, and deeming concert of action necessary, I assumed command of General Johnston's troops, and ordered an immediate and vigorous attack upon the enemy in our front—Deas and Manigault, with Johnston's command, all under direction of that officer, to wheel to the right until faced east, and then to advance, taking the enemy in flank; Anderson to move forward when the firing should begin. General Kershaw agreed to conform to the movements of the latter. I hoped to ensure the capture or destruction of the enemy by driving him in confusion upon the right wing of our army.

The movement began at half-past three. Skirmishing extended along the whole line as Deas, at the extreme left, commenced swinging. In a few minutes a terrific contest ensued, which continued at close quarters, without any intermission, over four hours. Our troops attacked again and again, with a courage worthy of their past achievements. The enemy fought with determined obstinacy, and repeatedly repulsed us, but only to be again assailed. As showing the fierceness of the fight, the fact is mentioned that, on our extreme left, the bayonet was used, and the men also killed and wounded with clubbed muskets. A little after four the enemy was reinforced and advanced, with loud shouts, upon our right, but was repulsed by Anderson and Kershaw. At this time it became necessary to retire Garrity's battery, of Anderson's brigade, which had been doing effective service. It was subsequently held in reserve. Dent's battery, of Deas' brigade, was engaged throughout the struggle. Notwithstanding the repulses of our infantry, the officers and men of this battery stood to their guns undaunted, and continued firing, inflicting severe loss on the enemy, and contributing largely to the success of my operations.

At twenty minutes after four Brigadier General Preston, of Buckner's corps, in answer to my application for help, brought me the timely and valuable reinforcements of Kelly's brigade, and, within an hour afterwards, the remaining brigades of his division, Gracie's and Triggs'. These brave troops, as they arrived, were conducted by officers of my

staff, to the right of my line, and promptly advanced, in conjunction with the rest, upon the enemy. From this time we gained ground, out, though commanding nine brigades, with Kershaw's co-operating, and all in action, I found the gain both slow and costly. I have never known Federal troops to fight so well. It is just to say, also, that I never saw Confederate soldiers fight better.

Between half past seven and eight, P. M., the enemy was driven from his position, surrendering to the gallant Preston six or seven hundred prisoners, with five standards, and many valuable arms. One piece of artillery, two or three wagons, and about fifty prisoners, fell into the hands of Deas' brigade. This was the victorious ending of the battle of Chickamauga.

At eleven, P. M., suffering much pain from an injury received about midday, I relinquished to Brigadier General Anderson the command of my division.

The usual commendatory expressions would almost seem to cheapen the services of the officers and men of my immediate command during the day, and those who fought with us in the afternoon. The relation of what they performed ought to immortalize them. For signal gallantry and efficiency the army and country are indebted to Brigadier Generals Preston and Johnston, and their several brigade commanders; also to Brigadier General Kershaw, and the three brigade commanders of my division, Anderson, Deas and Manigault. Without the decided success which they won on Dyer's Hill, Chickamauga would not have been a victory, unless after another day of fighting and slaughter.

On the same roll of honor should be inscribed the names of the chivalrous staff officers, the devoted officers of the regiments and companies, and the heroic rank and file. The reports of my subordinates mention many of each grade who distinguished themselves. Not a few of them fell gloriously, and now rest on the field; others bear honorable wounds, and others fortunately remained unhurt. I respectfully ask attention to the records of their conspicuous bravery, and that the appropriate rewards of valor be conferred on them.

The following staff officers were with me on the field:

Colonel C. W. Adams, assistant adjutant and inspector general and chief of staff.

Major J. P. Wilson, assistant adjutant general.

Captain Walker Anderson, acting assistant adjutant general.

Lieutenant B. F. Williams, aid-de-camp.

Captain D. D. Waters, acting chief of artillery.

Captain J. F. Walton, provost marshal.

Captain Lenoir, and Lieutenants Gordon and Lee, of my cavalry escort, also acted on my staff during the engagement.

The conduct of all these officers was in the highest degree soldierly, and their services most valuable. They have my thanks and deserve the confidence of their superiors. Colonel Adams especially, by his greater experience, his cool courage, and his admirable promptness and precision, has placed me under lasting obligations, and amply shown his fitness for higher rank, which I earnestly hope will be given him.



Major E. B. D. Riley, chief of ordnance, was very efficient in his department, having his trains almost constantly at hand, and supplying every call for ammunition with the least possible delay.

Major J. C. Palnir, C. S., performed his duties in the most satisfactory manner, providing the command with cooked rations during the battle, and the movements preliminary to it, with almost as much regularity as if prepared by the men themselves in camp. In this he was efficiently aided by Captain S. M. Lanirr, assistant quartermaster, an officer always ready and willing, and whose qualifications and services fairly entitle him to promotion.

Chief Surgeon C. Terry was prompt and efficient to the utmost extent of the means at his disposal.

Lieutenant L. P. Dodge, aid-de-camp, was disabled by being thrown from his horse before the battle commenced, and was not afterwards with me.

The strength of my division, on going into action, was five hundred and one officers, and five thousand six hundred and twenty-one enlisted men.

My loss in officers was sixteen killed, eighty-one wounded, and one missing; in enlisted men, two hundred and fifty-six killed, one thousand three hundred and ninety-nine wounded, and ninety-seven missing. Whole loss, two hundred and seventy-two killed, one thousand four hundred and eighty wounded, and ninety-eight missing.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

T. C. HINDMAN,  
*Major General.*

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL WALKER, COMMANDING  
RESERVE CORPS.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, }  
Near Chattanooga, Tenn., October 18, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel GEORGE W. M. BRENT,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

COLONEL: The reports of the commanding officers of brigades and divisions having been received, I hastened to forward them to headquarters, together with my report as commander of the reserve corps:

On the 18th of October, I was ordered by the commanding General to cross the Chickamauga at Alexander's bridge, if practicable, if not, to cross at Byron's ford, about one and a half miles below. Before reaching the bridge, I was informed that I would have to fight for it, as it was held by the enemy. General Liddell, commanding division, was ordered to advance with Walthall's and Govan's brigades. (Colonel Govan commanded General Liddell's brigade.) General Walthall advanced upon the bridge, and became engaged with the enemy, and, after a short and sharp encounter, took the bridge, which was torn up by the enemy, making it necessary for the command to cross at Byron's ford. Colonel Govan's skirmishers were also engaged. Ector's and Wilson's brigades were held in reserve, and not engaged. Byron's ford was crossed at night by the troops, but the ordnance wagons, in consequence of the rocky and uneven nature of the ford, were not crossed until morning. Colonel Wilson's brigade was left to guard the wagons, and the rest of the command bivouacked about a mile from the ford. I received an order that night to report to General Hood's command.

Early in the morning, General Forrest asked for a brigade of infantry, and the commanding General (General Bragg) directed me to order a brigade to report to him. Shortly afterwards, hearing firing, I remarked to the commanding General (General Bragg) that I thought Wilson's brigade was engaged, and that I would hasten to it. He directed me to attack with all the force I had. [General Liddell labors under a misapprehension in the first part of his report, when he speaks of my sending for orders and making a reconnoissance. I had been on the field before I saw General Liddell, and had received orders from the commanding General (as I state in my report) before I went on the field, and was satisfied of the large force of the enemy, and sent for reinforcements before I met him. When I did meet him we had some conversation about the forces, etc., which I do not remember. He is mistaken in regard to time.] On reaching the ground I found that Wilson's and Ector's brigades (having also been taken by Forrest, without any authority from me) were heavily pressed and, from the greatly superior numbers of the enemy, were compelled to fall back. I refer you to Colonel Wilson's report for the part his brigade took in the action. General Ector is absent, his brigade having been ordered to Mississippi; and I have no report from him,

but his brigade acted with the greatest gallantry. I ordered Liddell's division up as soon as I reached the ground, and they came up as quickly as possible, formed in line of battle, and moved up in gallant style and attacked the enemy. I refer you to General Liddell's report and to General Walthall's and Colonel Govan's for particulars. This division, too, after a desperate and gallant struggle had to fall back. Discovering, on my arrival on the ground, that my command had encountered a heavy force, I sent immediately back to the commanding General for reinforcements. About one o'clock General Cheatham came up, and was informed by me where his division was needed. I refer you to his own report for his part in the action. About five, P. M., (I had no watch, but this was about the time,) General Polk came up and took command, and my command acted under his orders. I am satisfied that there were more than Thomas' corps engaged; and all northern accounts state that parts of Crittenden's and McCook's were engaged. The unequal contest of four brigades against such overwhelming odds is unparalleled in this revolution, and the troops deserve immortal honor for the part borne in the action. Only soldiers fighting for all that is dear to freemen could attack, be driven, rally and attack again such superior forces. Two lines of battle of the enemy were broken in the first attack by Wilson; and when he was compelled to retire from the front of the breastworks which the enemy had fallen behind, the fight was taken up by Liddell's division and the enemy's line broken again, when he again took refuge behind his breastworks and Liddell was compelled to fall back. The troops were rapidly formed again, and the unequal contest was carried on from between nine and ten, A. M., by my command until about half past one, P. M., when, as I have said, Cheatham's division came up. In the afternoon, at about five o'clock, my command was ordered by General Polk to support Cleburne. General P. will doubtless report what then happened.

I was directed, Saturday night, by General Polk (to whom I was then ordered to report) to hold my reserve corps in readiness to support an attack upon the enemy, which would take place at daylight, and to support Cheatham's division. I was on the ground at daylight ready for the attack. The attack was not made at that time, and between about nine and ten I was ordered, instead of supporting Cheatham, to support Hill's corps, a part of the right wing, (commanded by Polk,) to form my reserve so as to *echelon* Breckinridge, who was on the right of Hill's corps. Before I got into my position, and whilst marching by the flank to gain the ground to the right, I was sent for by General Hill to his support. General Polk was with my command when I received the order. I marched rapidly forward in line of battle, part of the time at double-quick, and reported to General Hill. General Polk was with me. General Hill informed me, on my arrival, that he wanted a brigade. I told him there was one immediately behind him. He remarked he wanted Gist's brigade. I informed him that it was to the left and had just come up. (General Gist had, a few moments before, been put in command, by me, of General Ector's and Colonel Wilson's brigades, and Colonel Colquitt



*Rosemont*



had command of Gist's brigade.) He ordered General Gist's brigade immediately into the fight in rear of Breckinridge, a part of whose division had fallen back, and the whole of which was hard pressed. I refer you to General Gist's report for the performance of his command.

General Walthall was detached to the left to the support of Brigadier General Polk, by Hill or Polk. My command being thus disposed of, *brigades* being sent in to take the places of divisions, my only occupation was to help form the detached portions of my command as they came out from a position. I felt certain they would have to leave when they were sent in. My division commanders received their orders direct from General Hill, and I refer you to their reports.

Breckinridge's division having fallen back, and General Hill having reported Cleburne's division, on Breckinridge's left, routed, my reserve corps having fallen back in detachments, in which they were sent in, and a column having been observed marching down the Chattanooga road, on our right, I was compelled to insist on having something to do with my own command. With our right flank exposed to their advancing column, the reported gap that the withdrawal of Cleburne had made, on the left, I was in favor of forming the command in a strong position about one hundred and fifty or two hundred yards in rear of us, until we ascertained positively the condition of our flanks, and then make the best disposition of the combined force and strike the enemy to the best advantage. General Hill, differing with me, ordered his lines of battle, one at right angles to the other. General Breckinridge being at right angles to mine, he facing southward to oppose the force then coming from Chattanooga, and I facing westward toward the enemy we had been fighting. We were in this position when one of General Polk's aids rode up and told General Hill that General Polk had directed him to order General Hill peremptorily to advance immediately on the enemy. General Gist was then ordered, by me, to move his division in the direction of the enemy, and General Liddell's division was ordered on his right. Generals Breckinridge and Cheatham were in rear and on General Gist's left. The command marched forward. I refer you to General Gist's and General Liddell's reports for the result.

My command bivouacked on the battle-field, and the enemy retreated in the direction of Chattanooga.

I owe it to myself, and to the gallant command under me, to state that when I reported to General Hill, had he permitted me to fight my reserve corps according to my own judgment, and had not disintegrated it, as he did, by sending it in detachments, I would have formed my five batteries on the left flank of the enemy toward the Chattanooga road, and opened fire upon the enemy's flank, and would have either pushed them forward, supported by infantry, or have marched past them with my combined force, and I feel satisfied that the enemy's left would have been carried much easier than it was, and many a gallant man have been saved, and the enemy's retreat intercepted.

I refer the commanding General to the reports of the division and brigade commanders for the conduct of their officers on the field.

In the three days' fighting I had the honor to command the gallant reserve corps. I witnessed nothing but a heroism that was worthy of men battling for their freedom. To the division and brigade commanders, General Gist, commanding division composed of General Gist's, General Ector's and Colonel Wilson's brigades, and General Liddell, commanding division composed of General Walthall's and Colonel Govan's brigades, I have only to say that the brigadier generals fought with a gallantry that entitle them to division commands, and the colonels commanding brigades with an obstinacy and courage that entitle them to the rank of brigadier generals. The conduct of colonels, commanders of batteries, line officers and privates is recorded by their respective commanders.

I may be permitted in my own division, which was commanded on Sunday by General Gist, to state that Colonel Wilson, who commanded a brigade on both Saturday and Sunday, and acted with great distinction, and who is the oldest colonel from Georgia, is entitled, from long service with the brigade and from gallant conduct, to the command of the Georgia brigade he now commands in the capacity of brigadier general; and that the gallant Stevens, of Gist's brigade, (who was severely wounded,) from what I know of his capacity as an officer, from his gallantry on the field, and from his devotion to the cause, would grace any position that might be conferred.

To my staff, Captain J. B. Cumming, assistant adjutant general, Captain S. H. Crump, assistant inspector general, Lieutenants Lamar and Kenan, aids-de-camp, Lieutenant Magruder, ordnance officer, who was on the field with me, and Captain M. H. Tallbot, volunteer aid, I am indebted for distinguished and gallant service on the field, and to Captain Troup, assistant adjutant general, who was dangerously wounded whilst carrying an order in the thickest of the fight. From the character of the fighting, on both Saturday and Sunday, they were greatly exposed, and bore themselves as became gentlemen and soldiers fighting for all that is dear.

For the gallant dead we can but mourn. The noble, brave and chivalrous Colquitt, who fell in command of Gist's brigade, was a soldier and a gentleman, a christian and a friend. I hope I will be excused for paying, in my report, a tribute to his worth.

A map of the field and a list of casualties will accompany this report.

Gregg's brigade, which now forms a part of Walker's division, reported during the battle to Major General Hood, whose official report will, doubtless, give an account of its operations. I am proud to hear it behaved with great gallantry.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. T. WALKER,

*Major General commanding Division.*



## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH WHEELER.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, }  
October 30th, 1863. }

Colonel GEORGE W. BRENT.

*Assistant Adjutant General Army of Tennessee :*

COLONEL: Having been called upon to report the operations of my command during and incident upon the battle of Chickamauga, I have the honor to make the following statement of facts, in order simply to designate the position of the command. I cannot, in justice to the officers and men, make a full official report, until the reports of subordinate commanders have been received. I trust, however, this statement will answer until a full report can be prepared :

On the 27th August my command, consisting of Wharton's and Martin's divisions and Roddy's brigade, were stationed as follows : Estis' regiment, of Wharton's division, picketing Tennessee river from Bridgeport to Guntersville ; Wade's regiment, Martin's division, from Guntersville to Decatur, and detachments from Roddy's brigade from Decatur to the mouth of Bear creek. The main body of Wharton's division was stationed near Rome, Ga ; of Martin's division near Alexandria, Alabama, and of Roddy's brigade near Tusculumbia, Alabama. Two regiments of the corps were on detached duty with General Pillow.

On the 27th General Martin's command, numbering about twelve hundred men, was ordered to Trenton, and General Wharton's to the vicinity of Chattanooga.

On the 29th, the enemy crossed the Tennessee river in force, driving back the pickets of Colonel Estis' regiment. About five hundred men of General Martin's division under Lieutenant Colonel Malden, moved up Wills' valley and were placed on picket duty below Chattanooga.

It now became evident that the enemy were moving two divisions of cavalry and McCook's corps of infantry over Sand mountain and into Wills' valley by the Caperton road. I was ordered to take post in Brocmtown valley, for the purpose of picketing the passes of Look-out mountain. General Martin, with about twelve hundred men, guarded the passes from the Tennessee river to Neil's Gap, and Gen. Wharton from Neil's Gap to Gadsden. These commands kept the enemy continually observed, and full reports concerning him were several times each day sent to army headquarters. Several columns of the enemy's cavalry were pushed over the mountain, all of which were successfully driven back.

On the 12th September, McCook's corps of infantry and Stanley's corps of cavalry moved over the mountain at Alpine, and, after a severe fight, our cavalry (under Colonel Avery, a most gallant and discreet officer) was compelled to fall back.

Skirmishing continued nearly every day until the 17th, when I was ordered to move into McLeMore's cove, by Dug and Catlett's gaps, and attack the enemy, in order to make a demonstration in that di-

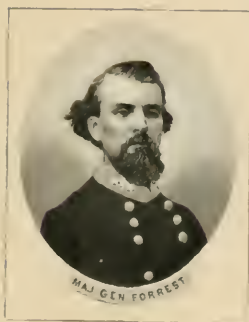
rection. We fought for some hours, driving the enemy for some distance, but finally developed a force too large to be dislodged.

On the following day we moved to Owens' ford, on Chickamauga river, leaving heavy pickets at all the gaps of the mountain as far as Gadsden.

About two, P. M., I learned the enemy's cavalry were moving up McLemore's cove. I moved across the river and warmly assailed their flank, dividing the column and driving the enemy in confusion in both directions.

During the night I received orders to guard well all the passes of the mountain and all the fords of the river down to General Longstreet's left flank, and to attack the enemy at every opportunity which presented itself. This order was complied with, and the remainder of my force was concentrated at Glass' mill. A considerable force of the enemy, with artillery, were deployed on the opposite bank, and warm skirmishing commenced. As soon as arrangements could be made, I dismounted all my available force, crossed and warmly assailed the enemy, hoping that we might draw troops from the centre, and thus create a diversion. After a short fight, the enemy wavered. We charged him and drove a largely superior force fully two miles to Crawfish Spring, killing and wounding large numbers and taking thirty-five officers and men prisoners, besides the wounded. We were successful in creating the diversion, as the enemy thought our advance a heavy flank movement, and reinforced this point heavily. The enemy, in his accounts of the battle, state that General Longstreet flanked him at this point at the hour we made the attack. At this time I received orders to move my available force to Lee and Gordon's mills, and attack the enemy. We arrived at that place about three o'clock, P. M., crossed the river, and vigorously assailed him. After a short time, he commenced retreating in confusion. We followed as rapidly as possible, capturing about one thousand prisoners, twenty wagons, and a large amount of arms and ordnance stores. About dark, we also captured five large hospitals, with a considerable supply of medicines, camp equipage, and a great number of wounded prisoners, besides over one hundred surgeons. The pursuit was continued till two hours after nightfall, when we retired to feed our horses.

Early on the morning of the 21st I detached two regiments, pursuant to orders, to pick up stragglers and arms. About nine, A. M., I received orders from General Longstreet to send a force of cavalry to find the enemy's position. At the same time I received orders from General Bragg, through Colonel McKinstry, to save the captured property. To accomplish both these objects, I detailed five hundred of my best mounted men, under Colonel Anderson, to comply with General Longstreet's order, with full instructions to report every hour to that officer. As previously stated, two regiments were already at work collecting stragglers and arms, leaving with me but about seventeen hundred men. Just at this time I received information from my pickets at Owen's ford that the enemy, in large force, was driving back our cavalry from that point. It was also reported that the enemy had a large train of wagons with him. At the same





time I observed a heavy dust in Chattanooga valley, which appeared to indicate a movement from Chattanooga, along the foot of Lookout mountain, towards McLemore's cove, for the purpose of succoring the command reported at Owen's ford. I immediately moved over to Chattanooga valley and drove back towards Chattanooga the force which was marching from that place. I then left the eighth Texas rangers and my escort to hold the enemy in check, while, with the balance of the command, I moved up towards McLemore's cove.

After marching about five miles we met a large force of cavalry, which, seeing the dust of our approach, had deployed a considerable force in a strong position. I immediately deployed two regiments and commenced skirmishing. Finding their position strong, I detached a squadron to turn their right flank. This caused the enemy to waver, when we charged in line and also in column on the road, driving him in confusion. The enemy attempted to form a new line with his reserves several times, but we met him with such force as to disperse him each time, driving him before us. We continued the charge several miles, capturing, killing, or dispersing nearly the entire command, said to number about two thousand men. We secured immediately upon the road only about four hundred. We also captured eighteen stand of colors, and secured their entire train, numbering about ninety wagons, loaded with valuable baggage. Many of the men who escaped to the adjoining woods were picked up on the following morning, and only about seventy-five men, half of whom were dismounted, succeeded in joining the Federal army. We also captured a number of arms. The wagons and mules were turned over to the chief quartermaster of army of Tennessee.

On the following morning, pursuant to orders, we pressed on to within one mile and a quarter of Chattanooga, driving the enemy's cavalry behind his infantry. We remained in this position until night, when, pursuant to orders, I proceeded towards Trenton, preparatory to crossing the Tennessee river. After one day's march, I received orders to return and sweep up Lookout mountain to Point Lookout. The order was received at two, P. M., and I immediately started with an advance guard of two hundred men, ordering the command to follow.

On arriving at Summertown at dark, I found one regiment of the enemy behind strong barricades. I dismounted my men to feel their position and charged their flanks, driving them for some distance. In this hasty retreat they left several guns, knapsacks, overcoats and cooking utensils, also their supper already cooked. By that time I learned that my command had been stopped and ordered to Chickamauga station. I, however, with my small command, which numbered one hundred and five dismounted men, pressed the enemy off the mountain.

After surveying the enemy's works, and reporting fully his position to the commanding General, I proceeded to Chickamauga station, where I received orders to cross the Tennessee river above Chattanooga. During the night, however, I received orders to move towards Charleston to support General Forrest, who was moving upon the enemy in that direction.

On the 29th I received orders to cross the Tennessee river with that portion of my command then with me (one brigade having been left with the army) and three brigades which General Forrest had been ordered to send me.

On the morning of the 30th, I learned that these commands had just arrived at a point about twenty miles from the point of crossing. I ordered them to the latter place, and proceeded there with the commands of Generals Wharton and Martin. The enemy had occupied the opposite bank, and immediately concentrated a force nearly, if not quite, equal to our own to resist our crossing. This force had followed me up the river, and I found that any point at which I should attempt to cross could be reached as easily by them as by my command. Under these circumstances, I determined to cross at the point I then was. The three brigades from General Forrest were mere skeletons, scarcely averaging five hundred effective men each. These were badly armed, had but a small supply of ammunition, and their horses were in horrible condition, having been marched continuously for three days and nights without removing saddles. The men were worn out and without rations. The brigade commanders made most urgent protests against their commands being called upon to move in this condition. With this state of things I allowed the worst horses to be returned to the rear, and with the remainder crossed in the face of an enemy nearly as large as our own force. We assailed and drove the enemy about three miles.

On the morning of November 2d I reached Sequatchie valley, and at three o'clock on the following morning proceeded down towards Jasper, with about fifteen hundred men. After travelling about ten miles we overtook and captured thirty-two six-mule wagons, which were destroyed. The mules were carried on with the command.

On approaching Anderson's cross roads we were met by a considerable force of cavalry, which we charged and drove before us. We here found a large train of wagons, which proved to extend from the top of Waldron's ridge for a distance of ten miles towards Jasper. This train was heavily loaded with ordnance, quartermaster and commissary stores. The number of wagons was variously estimated at from eight to fifteen hundred. No one saw, perhaps, more than half the train. The quartermaster in charge of the train, as well as other employees, stated that there were eight hundred six-mule wagons, besides a great number of sutler wagons. The train was guarded by a brigade of cavalry in front and a brigade of cavalry in rear, and on the flank, where we attacked, were stationed two regiments of infantry. After a warm fight the guards were defeated and driven off, leaving the entire train in our possession. After selecting such mules and wagons as we needed, we then destroyed the train by burning the wagons and sabering or shooting the mules. During this work my pickets were driven in on both flanks and my rear. Fortunately the enemy was repulsed, and we remained undisturbed for eight hours, and until our work was thoroughly accomplished. Just before dark, as we were retiring, a large force of cavalry and infantry moved upon us from Stephenson, skirmishing with our rear until



dark. During this General Martin, Colonel Avery and Lieutenant Colonel Griffith were distinguished for gallantry. During the night I moved over Cumberland mountain, and early next morning joined General Wharton near the foot of the mountain, and went forward to attack McMinnville. The enemy was pressing close behind, but we succeeded in capturing the place, with an enormous supply of quartermaster and commissary stores, with the fortifications and garrison, which numbered five hundred and eighty-seven men, with arms, accoutrements, &c. Two hundred horses were also captured. The day and night were occupied in destroying the stores, a locomotive, a train of cars, and a bridge over Hickory creek—such of the stores as could be transported having been distributed to the command.

On the following day we marched to Murfreesboro'. After making a demonstration upon the place we moved over, and, after a short fight, captured a strong stockade guarding the railroad bridge over Stone river, with its garrison of fifty-two men. The day was occupied in cutting down the bridge and thoroughly burning the timber. We also burned the railroad ties and track for three miles below the bridge.

The following day we destroyed a train and a quantity of stores at Christiana and Fosterville, and destroyed all the railroad bridges and tressels between Murfreesboro' and Wartrace, including all the large bridges at and near the latter place, capturing the guards, &c. We also captured and destroyed a large amount of stores of all kinds at Shelbyville—the enemy running from his strong fortifications upon our approach.

That night I ordered Davidson's division to encamp on Duck river, near Warner's bridge; Martin's division two miles further down, and Wharton's two miles below Martin's. During the evening I learned that the enemy, who had been closely pursuing, had encamped near Frazier's farm. I immediately informed General Davidson of the position of the enemy, and directed him to keep the enemy observed, and to join me should the enemy move towards him. This order was shortly after repeated with this modification, that he should move immediately to my position (Crowell's mill). Unfortunately he failed to comply with this order, and on the following morning was attacked by a superior force of the enemy. I received two consecutive despatches from General Davidson which indicated he was moving down Duck river, but on questioning his couriers, I ascertained that he was moving towards Farmington. I immediately started at a trot towards Farmington, with Martin's division, ordering General Wharton and the wagons to follow me. I reached Farmington just in time to place five regiments of Martin's command in position when the enemy appeared. I had ordered General Davidson to form in column by fours on the pike, and to charge the enemy when they were repulsed by Martin's division, General Davidson having officially reported to me that only three regiments of the enemy had been seen during the day.

The engagement commenced warmly, but the enemy was soon repulsed. General Davidson had failed to form as stated, and, instead, had moved for some distance. The enemy soon after came up in



strong force, with a division of infantry and a division of cavalry. We fought them with great warmth for twenty minutes when we charged the line and drove it back for some distance. General Wharton's column and our train having now passed, and the object for which we fought being accomplished, we withdrew, without being followed by the enemy.

The enemy, in his own account of the fight, acknowledged a loss of twenty-nine killed, including one colonel, and one hundred and fifty-nine wounded. My entire loss was less than one-fourth of the above figures.

A reconnoissance was made towards Columbia, which caused the enemy to evacuate that place and destroy all their stores, including thirty days' rations for the garrison.

We then proceeded to the Tennessee river at Muscle Shoals, the only fordable place on the river, where we crossed without difficulty, the enemy reaching the river just after I had crossed.

Two pieces of artillery of Wiggin's battery having broken down several times, were finally abandoned on account of our utter inability to bring them farther. The officers deserve great credit for carrying them so far in their disabled condition. One of the limbers of White's battery blew up, which caused it also to be abandoned. Two of the pieces were howitzers, and the other was an iron gun which had been condemned at every inspection for the last year.

During the trip we captured in action sixteen hundred prisoners, and killed and wounded as many of their cavalry as would cover our entire loss.

A full report of the casualties in my command during the battle, and during the trip through Middle Tennessee, will be found in the annexed tabular statement.

A considerable amount of the property captured on the trip was brought across the river.

The result of the operations of the cavalry under my command during the battle of Chickamauga were, first, guarding the left flank of the army for a distance of ninety miles, during and for twenty days preceding the battle of Chickamauga, during which time it continually observed and skirmished with the enemy, repelling and developing all his diversions. During the battle, with the available force (which near exceeded two thousand men) not on other duty, such as guarding the flanks, we fought the enemy vigorously and successfully, killing and wounding large numbers, and capturing two thousand prisoners, one hundred wagons and teams, a large amount of other property, and eighteen stand of colors, all of which were turned over to the proper authorities.

To Generals Wharton and Martin, commanding divisions, and Colonels Wheeler, Morgan, Crews and Harrison, commanding brigades, I tender my thanks for their zeal, energy and gallantry during the engagement. To General Davidson and Colonel Hodge, who commanded the troops which joined me on the expedition across the Tennessee river, I tender my thanks for their good conduct, and that of their troops during their advance upon McMinnville, and to General

Martin and Colonel Avery for their gallant assistance in the capture and destruction of the wagon train, and to Gen. Martin and his command particularly for their good conduct at Farmington, and their laborious work in destroying the bridges on the railroad. General Wharton and his command behaved throughout with their accustomed gallantry.

I tender my thanks to the following members of my staff for their gallantry and good conduct, viz:

Colonel King, Majors' Burford, Jenkins, Hume and Hill; Captains Turner, Powell, Wade, Flush and Kennedy, and Lieutenants Pointer, Wailes, Nichol and Hatch.

To Major Hume, particularly, am I indebted for his great gallantry during the fight at Farmington, where he was wounded, and to Lieutenant Pointer, my aid, for his gallantry during a cavalry charge, when he dashed upon the enemy's color-bearer, shot him, and then turned and brought the colors back to the command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH WHEELER,  
*Major General.*

#### APPENDIX A.

HEADQUARTERS DAVIDSON'S CAVALRY DIVISION, }  
October 7, 1863. }

To Major General WHEELER,

*Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: The enemy are following me. I am now six miles below town, on the south side of the river.

I have not yet made a decided stand.

Respectfully,

H. B. DAVIDSON,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DAVIDSON'S CAVALRY DIVISION, }  
*Allen's House, October 3, 1863.* }

Major General WHEELER,

*Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I am moving down the side of the river. The enemy are following me up. As soon as I can get a position, I will make a stand. I think they are in strong force.

Respectfully,

H. B. DAVIDSON,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

True copies:

M. G. HUDSON, A. D. C.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL LIDDELL, COMMAND-  
ING DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS LIDDELL'S AND LOWRY'S BRIGADE,  
*Cleburne's Division, A. T., before Chattanooga, Tennessee,* }  
October 10, 1863. }

Captain JOSEPH B. CUMMING,  
*A. A. G., late of the Reserve, A. T. :*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the action of my division, consisting of Walthall's and Govan's brigades, and constituting a portion of the reserve at the battle of Chickamauga :

About two o'clock, P. M., on Friday, the 18th of September, I was ordered by Major General Walker to take Alexander's bridge, across the Chickamauga. The reconnoissance I made was a very hasty and imperfect one, and, relying chiefly upon the information obtained from General Pegram, I instructed Brigadier General Walthall, of my division, to make an attack upon the enemy in possession of the bridge. This was promptly executed, and in three-quarters of an hour we had it in possession. The force in our front consisted of Wilder's mounted infantry, from whom were captured a half dozen or more breech-loading rifles. Our loss was one hundred and five in killed and wounded, and I can only account for this disproportion from the efficiency of this new weapon, our attack having been made through thick woods and cedar underbrush, rendering the artillery of the enemy that was used on the occasion, comparatively harmless. The bridge having been torn up, prevented our crossing at that point, and, making a detour of about a mile and a half northward, we effected a crossing at Byron's ford, continuing thence our movement to a position nearly one half mile in front of Alexander's bridge, where we bivouacked for the night on the same ground occupied by a portion of the enemy in our attack on the bridge.

The next morning, the 19th, about daylight, we continued our movement, in the same direction, towards Lee & Gordon's mill, for about one and a half miles further, where we halted for further instructions.

About eight o'clock, the firing of General Forrest's cavalry and Ector's and Wilson's brigades, became very heavy in the rear of the direction we were taking, and on the right of our intended line of battle. The country around was mostly oak woodland, and in places thick underbrush.

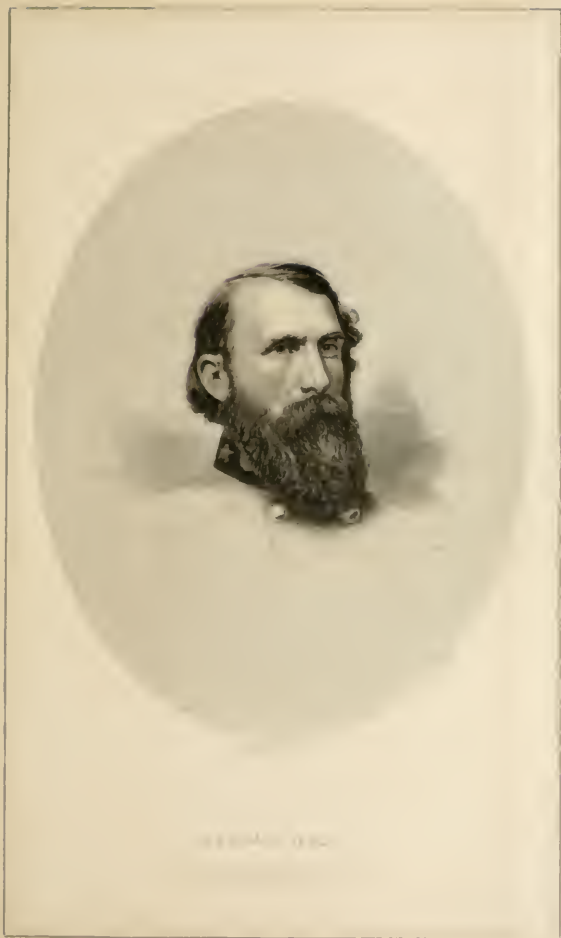
About eleven o'clock, Major General Walker asked me to go with him on a reconnoissance, to know what the demonstration meant then being made on our right. After proceeding northward one and a half miles, we found the enemy pressing back General Ector's and Colonel Wilson's brigades, the latter more or less in confusion, and other evidences of attack, making it apparent that a heavy force was bearing down upon us. I replied to General Walker's inquiry, as to what I thought of it, "that I was satisfied a corps of the enemy was about being thrown forward to turn our right wing, which it was absolutely

necessary for us to meet promptly with heavy reinforcements." He agreed with me in this opinion, and immediately wrote the same to General Bragg. At the same time orders were received by him from General Bragg to attack the enemy immediately with all his force, upon which he instructed me to bring up my force to the relief of the two brigades already mentioned, and to retard, if possible, the further progress of the enemy. As soon as my command could reach the place, I formed the line facing northward, General Walthall on the right, Colonel Govan on the left, and at once moved forward to the attack at fifteen minutes past twelve, P. M., cautioning Colonel Govan to look well to his left, as I apprehended that his left wing would strike the enemy first, although he was not then visible on account of the thick undergrowth. In a few minutes we became hotly engaged with the enemy's infantry and artillery, and, pressing forward with a shout, we captured all the artillery in our immediate front, with many prisoners of the fifth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, eighteenth, nineteenth and twenty-first United States regulars and fourth Kentucky. I ordered the artillery to be taken to the rear as rapidly as possible, but so many horses had been killed that it was very difficult to secure the pieces. We had now broken through two lines of the enemy immediately in our front, and were just engaging the third when it was discovered that their extended lines were overlapping and flanking us, right and left, upon which it became necessary to retire rapidly, by a flank movement to the right, to avoid destruction or capture. After reaching the next hill in rear of us, we found General Cheatham's division taking position, having just come up a little too late to our support in action. It was now perfectly clear that we had been opposed to an entire corps of the enemy, (Gen. Thomas',) to drive back which General Cheatham's division soon after proved to be insufficient. My command now having been reformed and rested for a short time, I was ordered to the extreme right of General Cheatham's line, forming an obtuse angle with it, upon reaching which position I moved forward to the attack a second time, in line nearly at right angles to that assumed by me in the first attack; Colonel Govan now on the right, and General Walthall on the left. The latter finding the enemy well posted, and in very strong force, after a contest of half an hour, was compelled to withdraw about two hundred yards, the left regiment of Colonel Govan's brigade falling back with him. The right of Colonel Govan's brigade had captured several pieces of artillery from the enemy, which seemed lightly supported and, whilst endeavoring to secure them, was fired upon by a Confederate battery, from the rear, the position of the line in the underbrush having concealed it from view, thus causing the mistake. This unlucky accident caused him to retire to the same line with General Walthall, without accomplishing his object. In this last attack, we fought over a portion of the ground on the left that we had contended for in the first engagement, the enemy having pushed up and occupied two-thirds of it. It was now within an hour of sunset, when General Cleburne's division came up in my rear, as General Cheatham's had done in the first fight, and forming his line of three bri-

gades parallel with mine, moved forward over us upon the enemy, engaging him about two hundred yards from my front. This attack being sudden and unexpected, the enemy gave way for a distance of half a mile or more, when both parties ceased firing for the night. It now being dark, we bivouacked where we were, and next morning, about six o'clock, in obedience to orders received from General Walker, I moved my command with General Ector's brigade, about a mile and a half to the right, on the prolongation, and in support of General Breckinridge's right. After arriving there, I was ordered to move forward to the attack in place of General Breckinridge's division, which had been repulsed in its attack on the enemy's left flank and rear. Here, at the order of Lieutenant General Polk, General Walthall's brigade was detached from me and moved to the left of General Gist's brigade, which was then making a direct attack on the left of the enemy's line near his breastworks. At the same time an order was given me by General Hill to take Colonel Govan's brigade and move on the Chattanooga road and engage the enemy in his rear. This was about eleven o'clock. After moving forward a short distance I ordered Colonel Govan to change direction to the left, which he did, finding the enemy in some woods after passing a small field, and pushing him back to the open ground in rear of the left of his fortifications. This was about half a mile in advance of Gist's brigade and on the Chattanooga road, cut off from all connexion with any of our forces. After a severe engagement, in which the enemy gave way opposite the right and pressed forward in large force on the left of the brigade, thus apparently designing to cut him off, Colonel Govan was forced to retire rapidly to avoid destruction.

For the part taken by General Walthall after he was detached from me I refer to his report. On reaching the cover of the timber by a circuitous detour to the right, the brigade was halted and reformed, and soon afterwards was joined by General Walthall's command from the left of Gist's. We were ordered now to remain in line, awaiting further orders. About six, P. M., Lieutenant General Hill ordered me to move straight forward and occupy the Chattanooga road. I requested General Hill to support me on the left, as I was satisfied from personal observation during Colonel Govan's attack that I would be enfiladed. This he said he would give me and I moved off at once. The line had passed some little distance beyond the Chattanooga road, meeting with little or no resistance to that point, when, as expected, it was enfiladed by batteries on both flanks, whilst a battery in front played upon it across a waste field. I immediately placed seven pieces of artillery on a high point on the right of General Walthall's brigade, which held the right wing, to engage the enemy's batteries and draw the fire, if possible, from the infantry. My line was parallel with the enemy's works and in his rear, upon his left flank, nearly half a mile. Here I had halted and ordered the men to lie down, no enemy just then appearing in front. There was a wide open field in front and on my left. The enemy soon after this apparently left his works and pressed upon the rear of my left flank, whilst his batteries enfiladed me. Soon afterwards a cloud of skir-









skirmishers suddenly emerged from the woods, encircling my front and right wing. From the combination of attacks, my command was forced to withdraw to avoid being captured. A part of my skirmishers were nevertheless captured, together with Colonel Scales, thirtieth Mississippi regiment, Walthall's brigade. The Federals had left their works, at this time, in retreat from the field, and our whole line was moving upon them. After reforming my command I moved it to the position on the Chattanooga road, near McDonald's house, where it bivouacked on the ground it was ordered to hold. At ten o'clock, Sunday night, my scouts reported that the enemy had entirely withdrawn from the field and disappeared towards Lookout mountain.

In these five different engagements, in the space of three days, I lost a great many officers and men; my loss being one hundred and sixty-two killed, nine hundred and sixty-three wounded, and two hundred and seventy-seven missing; total, one thousand four hundred and four; out of an effective total in both brigades of three thousand one hundred and seventy-five before action.

The attack of the enemy being aimed at our right wing, his force was necessarily large to accomplish his object, and, in every instance, overpowered me with numbers. In no instance, in the last two day's fight, did we make an attack without being flanked by the overlapping lines of the enemy; and, although forced to give way four different times, serious and heavy loss was inflicted upon the Federals in each attack, and the command always promptly rallied to renew the engagement.

In connexion with Sunday evening's affair, it is proper for me to state that the force which was reported by General Forrest, about four, P. M., to Lieutenant General Hill to be moving from the direction of Chattanooga, in support of the enemy's left flank, took its position in the edge of the woods on the opposite side of the waste field in my front, supported its batteries on my right flank and front, and, during the last engagement, threw forward its skirmishers, which, co-operating with the attack on my left and rear and the enfilading fires of their artillery, kept every movement of their own side in view as well as our own. This force retired with the balance of the enemy at dusk, having apparently accomplished its object of preventing our getting in his rear. \* We took about eight hundred prisoners, nearly all of which were regulars in the United States army. Major Coolidge, of the sixteenth United States infantry, was killed. Captain Van Pelt, of Loomis' battery, was captured by the eighth Arkansas and first Louisiana infantry. Of the pieces captured, four were secured by Govan's brigade and one by Walthall's. I refer to the reports of brigade commanders for particulars. Colonel Featherston, of the fifth Arkansas, was killed early in the first action. Colonel Gillespie and Lieutenant Colonel Bancum were both wounded. In Brigadier General Walthall's brigade, Lieutenant Colonel McKelvan, twenty-fourth Mississippi, Lieutenant Colonel Morgan, twenty-ninth Mississippi, Major Pegram, thirty-fourth Mississippi, Major Staples, twenty-fourth Mississippi, Lieutenant Colonel Jones, twenty-seventh Mississippi, Major Johnson, thirtieth Mississippi, and Lieu-

tenant Colonel Reynolds, thirtieth Mississippi, were wounded, the last mortally. Officers and men of both brigades behaved with unusual gallantry, and I have the satisfaction of knowing that they did their duty to their country, side by side, against greater odds than they have ever hitherto met. Although no brilliant results were directly accomplished, the record for hard fighting cannot be well surpassed. In my humble opinion it is the best evidence of good soldiers, when overpowered by immense numbers on all sides, to be able to rally promptly and return again and again to the contest undaunted. The enemy was held in check by the resolute bravery of my two brigades, united with the rest of General Walker's command, until sufficient support could come up to prevent our right flank from being turned by General Thomas' corps. To my two brigade commanders, Brigadier General Walthall and Colonel Govan, I am greatly indebted for their prompt co-operation in every movement and quick apprehension of the constantly recurring necessities that arise on a battle-field. I know of no more gallant soldiers, and feel honored by the command of such officers. My staff, Captain G. A. Williams, assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant J. L. Bostick, aid-de-camp, behaved with their usual gallantry and need no commendation at my hands. Lieutenant Dulin, brigade inspector, was slightly wounded in the forehead. To my chief surgeon, Dr. McFadden, my thanks are due for his prompt attention to the wounded and their rapid removal from the field, however distant they were from the hospital he had been enabled to establish. I would respectfully bring to notice the gallantry of Captain Fletcher, of the thirteenth Arkansas regiment, in repelling the sudden attempt of the enemy to capture two pieces of artillery, which were unavoidably delayed in being removed from their position, late in the evening of the 20th. I thank God for permitting us to be the survivors of a great victory for our country.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN R. LIDDELL,  
*Brigadier General.*



GENERAL JOHN B. FRANKLIN

1860-1861



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL W. PRESTON, COMMANDING DIVISION.

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, *October 31, 1863.*

Captain GALLAUER,

*Assistant Adjutant General :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to transmit, in obedience to orders, a report of the part taken by the division under my command in the battle of Chickamauga :

On the 18th of September our forces advanced in several columns to cross the Chickamauga, and give battle to the Federal army under General Rosencranz. Major General Buckner's corps, consisting of Stewart's division and mine, moved on the road to Thedford's ford, and on the evening of that day (Friday) my command bivouacked at Hunt's or Dalton's ford, on the south bank of the river and east of the road. The skirmishers of Colonel Kelley's brigade soon discovered the enemy posted along the opposite bank of the stream, extending above in the direction of Lee & Gordon's mill. Soon after nightfall General Gracie's brigade was moved across the ford and established in line of battle, running almost east and west, near Hunt's house, and a few hundred yards north of the river, where it remained during the night.

On the next morning my two remaining brigades crossed the river at dawn, and were formed in line of battle in Hunt's field. Stewart's division soon occupied a position on my right, and extended eastward in the direction of Thedford's ford. Riding forward, I found troops of Brigadier General Johnson's and Major General Hood's commands forming in line of battle nearly at right angles to my own line, facing westward, toward the Chattanooga road, and afterwards met General Bragg, Major General Hood and Major General Buckner, who were conferring together. Having reported to Major General Buckner the position of my troops, I returned, and about eight o'clock received an order from him to advance through Hunt's field, in the direction of the enemy. Gracie's brigade was immediately conformed to the general line of battle and moved westwardly toward the main road—that runs north from Lafayette to Chattanooga. After advancing about six hundred yards it arrived near a sharp curve of the Chickamauga, which impeded further progress. I halted the command on the brow of the hill overlooking the stream and plain below. The enemy's lines and batteries were discovered about fifteen hundred yards distant, in the direction of Lee & Gordon's mill, across the bend of the river, which it would have been necessary to cross twice, with an open field intervening, swept by their artillery, had the advance continued straight forward. Having halted Gracie, I drew up Kelly's brigade three hundred yards in the rear, upon a declivity in the field, and Trigg's brigade about three hundred yards in rear of Kelly's, on the prolongation of Bate's brigade, of Stewart's division, which was

on the right—thus forming my division in a column of three brigades. A rocky hill near Gracie's right, overlooking the field below, afforded an excellent position for artillery. Upon it I posted Jeffries' battery. The enemy commenced shelling my lines rapidly, and I lost a commissioned officer killed, and a few men of the sixth Florida, with Lieutenant Lane and others of the sixty-third Tennessee wounded. A shot or two was fired by Jeffries, but I ordered the battery to cease firing, as the distance was too great to assure proper accuracy. My troops remained in ranks without further reply, patiently enduring the fire. About twelve o'clock, in compliance with an order received Major General Buckner, I moved my command by the right flank from about six or eight hundred yards, to a position somewhat west of north from Hunt's field. Trigg's brigade occupied the front, in a woodland near a small cabin. Gracie was formed near Trigg, and Kelly was posted in the rear, supporting Leyden's battalion of artillery. No further event of importance occurred during the day to Gracie's or Kelly's brigades. Soon after Trigg occupied his position, some three hundred yards in advance of Gracie and Kelly, his skirmishers, under Colonel Maxwell, engaged those of the enemy with spirit, and some two hours afterwards were driven in by the enemy's artillery. There was a small corn field three or four hundred yards in front of Trigg, in which the enemy were posted. About two or three o'clock a continuous and heavy fire of infantry and artillery, and their shells exploding beyond our rear lines, announced a conflict near the field in front. I was informed that Hood's division was attacking the enemy in the field, whilst my division was held in reserve. Soon after I received an order from Major General Buckner to detach a brigade and reinforce General Hood. For this purpose Colonel Trigg was ordered to advance in the direction of the firing, and to give the required support. The action soon became hot in front. Trigg joined Brigadier General Robertson, of Hood's division, and attacked the enemy. They were broken in confusion. The sixth Florida, under Colonel Findlay, sustained heavy loss, but owing to some misapprehension of orders, the brigade failed to capture the enemy's battery, or to reap the fruits of their repulse. As I was not personally superintending the attack, I refer to the report of Colonel Trigg for details.

Riding forward, however, I found the evidences of a stubborn and sanguinary conflict in the margin of the wood and the corn field beyond, from which the enemy were retiring their lines. Night coming on, Trigg bivouacked in the woodland near the edge of the corn-field, while Gracie and Kelly occupied a position in front of a little hut, near which Major General Buckner had established his headquarters.

I have no means of ascertaining, with accuracy, the loss sustained by my division on Saturday, but estimate it at about one hundred and fifty or one hundred and seventy-five killed and wounded, nearly all of whom were from Trigg's brigade. During the night Gracie's and Kelly's brigades were vigorously engaged in constructing defences to strengthen the left, and, in the morning, Williams' and Leyden's battalions of artillery were supported by my infantry, under cover of good field entrenchments.



On Sunday, about midday, the battle became fierce along the right towards Chattanooga, and there was a general advance of the left wing, under Lieutenant General Longstreet. Stewart's division and Trigg's brigade were moved forward northwestwardly, in the direction of Brotherton's house, on the Chattanooga road. Under an order from Major General Buckner, I advanced with Gracie's and Kelly's brigades, with the exception of the sixty-fifth Georgia, Colonel Moore, which was left to protect Jeffries' battery, near Hunt's field, on the left. Gracie's and Kelly's brigades were formed in line of battle across the Chattanooga road, in front of Brotherton's house, and Trigg a short distance in the rear. The enemy, in some fields on the north, maintained an active fire of shot and shell on my troops until about half past three o'clock, when I received an order to move toward Dyer's house and field to support Brigadier General Kershaw. Guided by Captain Terrill, I advanced with Gracie's and Kelly's brigades, Trigg's having been retained near Brotherton's by Major General Buckner, to resist an apprehended attack of cavalry on our left and rear. After moving through the woodland between the Chattanooga road and Dyer's farm house, I reached a large field extending northward to some wooded ravines and heights. These heights stretch nearly east and west from the Lafayette and Chattanooga road, to another nearly parallel road running from Crawfish Spring to Ross-ville, and about two miles west of the former. From the edge of Dyer's field the ground descends to a wooded ravine, and after two or three intervening depressions, each succeeding height being more elevated, you reach the summit of the ridge, which is some two hundred feet above the level of the plain. Along this ridge the enemy were drawn up under General Thomas, as it is believed from the statement of prisoners. A strong battery was posted on the loftiest and most eastern of these heights, toward Snodgrass house and Chattanooga. On the northeast the undulations were gentle, and cleared fields and farms stretched away to the eastward to open and wooded plains.

Upon these plains the battle had raged during the day, and the heights were the key of the enemy's position, and his last stronghold. As soon as the advance brigade of Gracie reached Dyer's field, I ordered him to form in line of battle, with his left wing resting near a tall pine on the summit of the hill, near the edge of the field, and in front of the enemy's strongest position. This was done with great animation and in admirable order. I then directed Colonel Kelly to form his brigade on the left of Gracie, and to change direction to the right as he advanced. The owner of the farm, John Dyer, one of my couriers, gave me a most accurate and valuable description of the local topography, and I directed Kelly to cover and protect Gracie's left. Whilst engaged in bringing Kelly into position, Gracie's brigade disappeared in the wood, advancing against the battery hill. I ordered Captain Blackburn, my volunteer aid-de-camp, to follow and ascertain from General Gracie by what authority he had moved. General Gracie replied that he had been ordered to advance by Brigadier General Kershaw, who was in the ravine just beyond the field.



The movement was slightly premature, as Kelly was not formed, but I at once ordered his brigade forward, and sent Captain Blackburn to direct him to oblique to the right again, so as to press toward the slope of the hill in the rear, while Gracie was attacking in front. The enemy had kept up a rapid artillery fire from the hill and across the field, but Gracie, passing through Kershaw's ranks, which were halted in the first ravine beyond the field, dashed over the ridge beyond and into the hollows between it and the battery hill. The brigade advanced with splendid courage, but was met by a destructive fire of the enemy from the cover of their field works on the hill. The second Alabama battalion stormed the hill and entered the entrenchments. Here an obstinate and bloody combat ensued. Brigadier General Gracie, whilst bravely leading his men, had his horse shot under him. Lieutenant Colonel Fulkerson, commanding the sixty-third Tennessee, Lieutenant Colonel Jolly, of the forty-third Alabama, Lieutenant Colonel Holt, of the first Alabama battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel Hall, of the second Alabama battalion, were severely wounded whilst gallantly leading their respective commands in the assault on the hill. Many brave officers and men here fell. The brigade carried into action about two thousand and three officers and men, and, in the space of an hour, lost six hundred and ninety-eight killed and wounded. The second Alabama battalion, out of two hundred and thirty-nine, lost one hundred and sixty-nine killed and wounded. In the action its color was pierced in eighty-three places, and was afterwards, by request, presented to His Excellency the President, who promoted the brave standard-bearer, Robert W. Mith, for conspicuous courage. George W. Norris, of Captain Wise's company, of Hall's battalion, fell at the foot of the enemy's flag-staff, and was buried at the spot where he had so nobly died.

Gracie's brigade advanced between four and five o'clock, and Kelly moved about ten minutes afterwards to assail the second hill on the ridge, three or four hundred yards west of the battery hill. I ordered him to change direction obliquely to the right, which was promptly done, and in a few minutes the brigade had passed beyond the troops halted on the left of Kershaw's brigade in the ravine and engaged the enemy on the ridge, three or four hundred yards beyond. Then a desperate combat ensued, the hostile forces being not more than thirty or forty yards apart. Kelly gained the hill after a bloody struggle, and the enemy vainly sought to dislodge him from it.

Just as I first formed, and moved Kelly into action, I met Major General Hindman and staff, on the summit of the hill near Dyer's field. The General though suffering from a contusion on the neck, from a fragment of shell, remained in the saddle. He informed me of the state of affairs, and assured me of my opportune arrival, and authorized me to post a battery of his on a point of the field so as to guard against and cover any repulse of my troops or any adverse event. This was done by me though I did not learn the name of the officer commanding the battery. When the fire on Gracie and Kelly was fully developed, its great volume and extent assured me that support was indispensable. At once I dispatched Captain Blackburn,



General James B. Connelley, 1862

1862



Captain Preston and Lieutenant Johnston, of my Staff, with orders to bring Trigg's brigade forward rapidly, and to inform Major General Buckner, at Brotherton's, of my situation and the urgent necessity of the order. Shortly after Captain Harvey Jones, A. A. General of Gracie's brigade, rode up and informed me that Gracie had gained the hill, but could not hold it without reinforcements. I instructed him to inform Gracie that the hill must be held at all hazards, and that I would send Colonel Trigg to his support in a few minutes. Soon after Colonel Kelly sent me word by Lieutenant McDaniel that he could not hold the hill without suceor, and I gave him a similar response. This was about the period of the heaviest fire, and I rode forward to where Colonel Kelly was engaged on the hill, and Lieutenant McDaniel brought him to me. I reiterated the order and the assurance of Trigg's speedy arrival, and passed on to the right, where I met General Gracie. He reported his ammunition almost exhausted, and was withdrawing his men to replenish his cartridge boxes.

In the meantime, General Buckner had sent me Colonel Trigg's brigade, which, advancing in double-quick time, arrived at a critical moment, while the battle was raging fiercely. One of Trigg's regiments went to the support of General Gracie, while the remainder of his brigade was ordered to form on the left of Kelly and to attack the enemy on the ridge. This fresh brigade, moving over the troops halted in the valley below, assaulted with great ardor the enemy on the left of Kelly, and quickly carried the first ridge. The fresh and lengthening line of fire from this fine command reanimated our men, and disheartened the enemy, who relinquished their first position, and fell back to a second ridge, occupied by a strong force and posted behind field works. A momentary lull ensued. Brigadier General Robertson reported to me, and I directed him to occupy and hold the position from which Gracie had withdrawn to replenish his ammunition. I sent, at this time, for Colonel Kelly, who reported in person and informed me that the enemy in his front seemed in confusion. I directed him to use his discretion and press the advantage by advancing as far as practicable, with Trigg wheeling to the right toward the declivity of the battery hill, stretching towards Chattanooga. It was now moonlight, and Kelly returning to his command after a few minutes absence from it, the fire reopened, and, continuing for a short time, ceased. It was the last fire of the day, and closed the battle.

In the last attack made by Trigg and Kelly, Colonel Hawkins, of the fifth Kentucky, a brave and skillful officer of Kelly's brigade, captured two colonels, one lieutenant colonel, a number of company officers, and two hundred and forty-nine prisoners. The twenty-second Michigan, the eighty ninth Ohio and part of the twenty-first Ohio regiments were captured by Trigg's and Kelly's brigades, and five stand of colors were taken by sergeant Timmons, of the seventh Florida regiment, and by privates Hencker, Harris, Hylton and Carter, of the fifty-fourth Virginia. Colonels Carlton, Lefebvre and Lieutenant Colonel Glenn were among the prisoners.

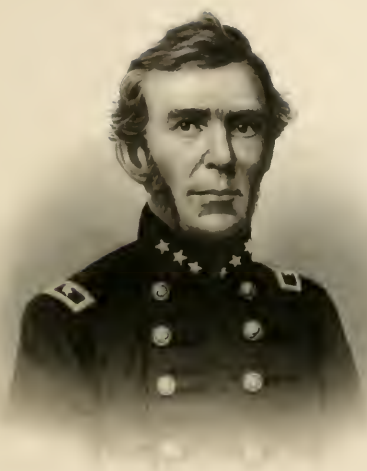
The next morning about four thousand five hundred stand of arms, which had been thrown away by the flying enemy, were secured by

my command. I learned that Steadman's division and troops from General Granger's reserve corps held the heights attacked by my division, and from captured artillerists, at Snodgrass' house, that the hill had been occupied by a battery of the regular army and another from Ohio.

Among the wounded at Snodgrass' house, where a hospital had been established by the enemy, were many prisoners, some of whom were from Crittenden's corps, portions of which seem also to have occupied the hill. In the attack on the hill no artillery could be used by us effectively. The struggle was alone for the infantry. Few fell who were not struck down by the rifle or the musket. Whilst at the height of the engagement, the reserve artillery of Major Williams opened fire, by order of Major General Buckner, on the rear lines of the enemy, but with what effect I could not judge. The fire served, however, to draw that of the enemy to another part of the field on my right. As my line advanced, I sent word to General Buckner, requesting him to cause Williams to cease firing or he would enfilade my men who had now the ridge, and the batteries were promptly stopped. The battalion of Georgia artillery, under Major Leyden, was engaged with Colonel Trigg on Saturday, and that of Captain Jeffries, protected by the sixty-fifth Georgia, occupied an important position on the left. Captain Peebles' battery, of Major Leyden's command, sustained a small loss in the engagement. No opportunity for the advantageous use of his guns was offered in that quarter of the field. I refer to Major Leyden's report for details.

The next morning, I ordered the burial of the dead. Many of our brave men had fallen in charging the slopes leading to the summit of the ridge. The musketry from the low breastworks of the enemy on the hill attacked by General Gracie, had set fire to the dry foliage, and scorched and blackened corpses gave fearful proof of the heroism and suffering of the brave men who had stormed the hill. The ground occupied by the enemy's battery was strewn with slain. More to the north, in a wooded dell in front of Kelly and Trigg, many dead and wounded of the enemy were found, who had fled the combat and sought concealment in its shadows. All the dead along my line, whether friend or enemy, were buried, and the wounded removed to hospital.

I have already mentioned the services of Brigadier General Gracie and his command, and desire to express my approval of the courage and skill he manifested in the battle. It also affords me pleasure to notice the valuable services of Colonel J. M. Moody, Lieutenant Colonel Sanford, Major McLennan, Captain Walden and Surgeon Luckie, of Gracie's brigade. Colonel Trigg maintained and increased his justly merited reputation as a brave and skillful officer. Every order was executed with energy and intelligence. To the rapidity with which he moved his command to the support of Kelly's and Gracie's brigades, and availed himself of the advantages of the field, I attributed, in a great measure, the success of my command in carrying the position. Colonel Findlay, of the sixth Florida moved at once to my support, with Lieutenant Colonel Wade, of the fifty-fourth Virginia, while the seventh Florida, under Colonel Bullock, was



BRADY'S GALLERY





brought forward by Colonel Trigg, in person. During the struggle for the heights, Colonel Kelly had his horse shot under him, and displayed great courage and skill. He animated his men by his example, and with unshaken firmness retained the ground he had won. During the action, he was reinforced by a regiment from the brigade of Brigadier General Patton Anderson, who was in his vicinity, for which timely aid I desire to express my obligations.

Colonel Kelly took into action eight hundred and seventy-six officers and men, one of his regiments (the sixty-fifth Georgia) being detached, and lost three hundred killed and wounded. Colonel Palmer, of the fifty-eighth North Carolina, though wounded, remained on the field, and bravely commanded his regiment. Lieutenant Colonel Edmund Kirby, a young, brave and lamented officer of the same regiment, fell early in the action. Captain Lynch, of the sixty-third Virginia, and Lieutenant Colonel Conner, Major Myneher and Adjutant Thomas B. Cook, of the fifth Kentucky, merit honorable mention. Captain Joseph Desha, of the fifth Kentucky, who, though painfully wounded, remained on the field until the enemy was defeated, deserves especial commendation. Captain Desha has been often in action, and always honorably mentioned, and I respectfully recommend him for promotion.

The actual strength of the command taken by me into action on Sunday was three thousand seven hundred and fifty-two men, and three hundred and twenty-six officers, being an aggregate of four thousand and seventy-eight infantry, and my total loss in the battle was twelve hundred and seventy-five killed and wounded—and sixty-one missing, nearly all of the lost having been subsequently counted for.

I desire to express my thanks to my staff for the efficient aid they rendered me. Major W. M. Owen, chief of artillery; Captain Sandford, assistant adjutant general; Captain Edward C. Preston, division inspector; Lieutenant Edward Whitfield, ordnance officer; Lieutenant Adams, assistant adjutant and inspector general; Lieutenant Harris H. Johnston, aid de-camp, and Captain J. C. Blackburn volunteer aid de camp, were actively employed during the battle, and I tender to them the assurance of my sense of their valuable service on the field. Lieutenant Bowles, of Morgan's cavalry, was temporarily attached to my staff, and assisted me greatly during the engagement. Major Edward Cruikfield, quartermaster, and Major Bradford were under orders a short distance in the rear, but availed themselves of each interval to join me at the front, and fulfilled their respective duties to my entire satisfaction. Surgeon Benjamin Gillespie, by the establishment of field hospitals and his care of the wounded, merits my thanks and official notice.

Enclosed I transmit the report, of General Gracie, Colonels Kelly and Trigg, with others of subordinate officers. I refer to them for many details which cannot be embraced in this report, and invite attention to the instances of skill and gallantry shown by officers and men which they record. The troops of my division had never been engaged in any important battle, having been stationed during the

war chiefly in southwestern Virginia and east Tennessee, to defend their mountain passes from invasion. Held in reserve while the conflict raged around them for a day and a half, they manifested a noble ardor to share its dangers and its glories. Though long in service, and not aspiring to the title of veterans, I felt strong confidence in their patriotism, courage and discipline. The hour for the trial of all these great qualities arrived; every hope was justified, and I feel assured that both officers and men won honorable and enduring renown upon the memorable field of Chickamauga.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant,

W. PRESTON,  
Brigadier General, P. A. C. S.

*TABULAR STATEMENT of the strength of Preston's Division in the Battle of Chickamauga, and the Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing.*

| COMMAND.              | EFFECTIVE STRENGTH. |               |                |               | KILLED, WOUNDED AND MISSING |               |           |               |           |               |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
|                       | Sept. 19, 1863      |               | Sept. 20, 1863 |               | Killed.                     |               | Wounded   |               | Missing.  |               |
|                       | Officers.           | Enlisted men. | Officers.      | Enlisted men. | Officers.                   | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. | Officers. | Enlisted men. |
| Gracie's Brigade..... | 135                 | 1,592         | 134            | 1,869         | 6                           | 54            | 30        | 578           | .....     | 27            |
| Trigg's Brigade ..... | 119                 | 1,417         | 108            | 1,091         | 3                           | 48            | 13        | 213           | .....     | 6             |
| Kelly's Brigade*..... | 109                 | 1,037         | 84             | 792           | 5                           | 57            | 15        | 223           | .....     | 29            |
| Total.....            | 363                 | 4,446         | 326            | 3,752         | 14                          | 164           | 68        | 1,014         | .....     | 61            |

\*The sixty-fifth Georgia detached on September 20th.

W. PRESTON,  
Brigadier General commanding Division.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL N. B. FORREST, COM-  
MANDING CAVALRY.

HEADQUARTERS FORREST'S CAVALRY COMMAND, }  
Dalton, Georgia, October 22, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel GEORGE W. BRENT,  
*A. A. General Army of Tennessee :*

COLONEL: I have the honor to forward the following report of the operations of my command during the action at Chickamauga creek on the 19th and 20th ultimo; also a brief statement of its movements and engagements prior and subsequent to the battle of Chickamauga, accompanying it with the reports of Brigadier General Pegram, commanding division, and Colonel J. L. Scott, commanding brigade. No report from Brigadier General Armstrong, commanding first division of the corps, has been received. A report is also due from Brigadier General Davidson, who commanded a brigade of General Pegram's division during the battle of Chickamauga. The reports of both officers would no doubt have been furnished but for the movements in East Tennessee, and afterwards under General Wheeler in Middle Tennessee, which gave no time or opportunity to make them out.

On the 9th ultimo I was ordered to establish my headquarters at Dalton, and my command was located and disposed of as follows: Colonel Hodges' brigade was sent on the Cleaveland and Dalton road to meet the enemy—then reported at Athens, Tennessee, and advancing; Colonel Scott's brigade was ordered to Ringgold, Georgia, to watch the enemy on the road from Chattanooga to that point; General Pegram was left at or near Peavine church, and Brigadier General Armstrong's division was located in front of General Cheatham's infantry division, on the Chattanooga and Lafayette road. I retained with me at Dalton about two hundred and forty men of General Morgan's command.

The reports of General Pegram and Colonel Scott sufficiently detail their operations prior to the battle of Chickamauga, and require no further comments here.

On Thursday, 17th ultimo, I moved from Dalton, and on Friday morning from Ringgold to Peavine creek, having with me Morgan's men (under Lieutenant Colonel Martin) and my escort, and met the enemy's cavalry (Mintry's brigade) at Peavine creek. Dismounting Lieutenant Colonel Martin's command, and, assisted by Brigadier General B. R. Johnson's command, the enemy were driven across the Chickamauga at Reed's bridge, at which point I was joined by General Pegram's division. Crossing the creek at a ford above the bridge, the country was scoured for a mile west of the bridge. General Hood's command of infantry also crossed the Chickamauga and formed in line of battle, my command bivouacking on the field in the rear of his line, near Alexander's bridge.

\* On the morning of the 19th, I was ordered to move with my com-

mand down the road towards Reed's bridge and develop the enemy, which was promptly done, and their advance was soon engaged at the steam saw mill near that point. Finding the enemy too strong for General Pegram's force, I despatched a staff officer to Lieutenant General Polk's quarters for General Armstrong's division. He could only spare Dibrell's brigade, which arrived shortly after we engaged the enemy, was speedily dismounted and formed, and, with General Pegram's division, were able to hold position until infantry reinforcements arrived, the first brigade of which, under Colonel Wilson, formed on my left, advanced in gallant style, driving the enemy back and capturing a battery of artillery. My dismounted cavalry advanced with them. The superior force of the enemy compelled us to give back until reinforced by General Ector's brigade, when the enemy were again driven back. From statements of prisoners captured, the enemy's force engaged was four brigades of infantry and one of cavalry. But when driven back the second time, with the loss of another battery, their full force was developed, and, being met and overpowered by vastly superior numbers, we were compelled to fall back to our first position. A cavalry charge was made to protect the infantry as they retired, which they did in good order, though with loss. We captured many prisoners, but were unable, for want of horses, to bring off the guns captured from the enemy. Until the arrival of Major General Walker, (being the senior officer present,) I assumed temporary command of the infantry, and I must say that the fighting and the gallant charges of the two brigades just referred to excited my astonishment. They broke the enemy's line, and could not be halted or withdrawn until nearly surrounded. We fell back, fighting and contesting the ground, to our original position, near the mill on the Reed's bridge road. General Cheatham's division coming up and engaging the enemy, drove them for some distance, but was, in turn, compelled to fall back. Seeing General Maney's brigade hard pressed and retiring before the enemy, I hastened to his relief with Freeman's battery of six pieces, dismounting Colonel Dibrell's brigade to support it. The conduct of Major John R. ———, chief of artillery, and the officers and men of this battery, on this occasion, deserves special mention. They kept up a constant and destructive fire upon the enemy until they were within fifty yards of the guns, getting off the field with all their guns, notwithstanding the loss of horses. They were gallantly protected by Colonel Dibrell in retiring, who fell back with the line of infantry. General Armstrong, having been released by General Polk, arrived with his brigade and took command of his division, forming it, and, with Pegram's division, holding the road to Reed's bridge, which had been repaired during the day.

On Sunday morning, the 20th, I received orders to move up and keep in line with General Breckinridge's division, which I did, dismounting all of General Armstrong's division, except the first Tennessee regiment, of McDonald's brigade, holding General Pegram's division in reserve on my right. The two commands of General Armstrong's division, which were mounted, took possession of the

Lafayette road, capturing the enemy's hospitals and quite a number of prisoners. They were compelled to fall back as the enemy's reserves, under General Granger, advanced upon that road. Colonel Dibrell fought in front, with the infantry, during that day. As General Granger approached, by shelling his command and manœuvring his troops, he was detained nearly two hours and prevented from joining the main force until late in the evening, and then at a double-quick and under a heavy fire from Freeman's battery and a section of Napoleon guns, borrowed from General Breckinridge. After Granger's column had vacated the road in front of me, I moved my dismounted men rapidly forward and took possession from the Federal hospital to the woods on the left, through which the infantry was fighting and advancing. My artillery was ordered forward, but, before it could reach the woods and be placed in position, a charge was made by the enemy, the infantry line retreating in confusion and leaving me without a support, but held the ground long enough to get my artillery back to the position from which we shelled Granger's column, and opened fire upon the advancing column with fourteen pieces of artillery, driving them back and terminating on the right flank the battle of Chickamauga. This fire was at short range, in open ground, and was to the enemy very destructive, killing two colonels and many other officers and privates.

It is with pride and pleasure that I mention the gallant conduct of the officers and men of my command. General Armstrong's division fought almost entirely on foot, always up and frequently in advance of the infantry. My command was kept on the field during the night of the 20th, and men and horses suffered greatly for want of water. The men were without rations and the horses had only received a partial feed once during the two days' engagement.

On Monday morning I moved forward on the Lafayette road towards Chattanooga, capturing many prisoners and arms. The latter were collected as far as practicable and sent to the rear, using for that purpose several wagons and ambulances captured from the retreating enemy or abandoned and left by them. On taking possession of Mission ridge, one mile or thereabouts from Rossville, we found the enemy fortifying the gap; dismounted Colonel Dibrell's regiment, under command of Captain McGunns, and attacked them, but found the force too large to dislodge them. On the arrival of my artillery, it opened on and fought them for several hours, but could not move them.

We held possession of the ridge during the night, and on Tuesday moved down from Mission ridge into the Chattanooga valley, driving the enemy into the woods; and advancing on the Lafayette road beyond Watkins' farm, and holding position there until the arrival of Kershaw's brigade. My command was kept in line of battle during the night at Silvey's ford on the Tennessee river.

On Wednesday, 23d, with McDonald's battalion, I gained the point of Lookout mountain. My troops, being gradually relieved by infantry, were ordered to the rear and went into camp at and near Bird's



mills, with orders issued to cook up rations and shoe the horses as rapidly as possible.

On Friday morning, the 25th, I received orders to move with my entire command to meet the forces of Burnside at or near Harrison, which order was immediately obeyed. Having proceeded as far as Chattanooga station, a second courier came up, with an order to proceed *via* Cleveland to Charleston and disperse the enemy at that place, and if necessary to cross the ——— river. I reached Cleveland that night, and went to Charleston the next morning; found the enemy on the opposite side of the river. I moved up my artillery and, after a sharp cannonading, drove them off and threw my cavalry across the river. From prisoners captured, found the force opposite Charleston and retreating was a mounted brigade commanded by Colonel Byrd. \* Learning also that Woolford's Federal cavalry was encamped at Cedar Springs, three miles from Athens, it was deemed necessary to follow, which was done rapidly, fighting them repeatedly and driving them before us. Their last stand was made at Philadelphia, when Woolford's brigade was put to flight by the advance of Armstrong's division, under Colonel Dibrell. Receiving orders to return at once, I withdrew my command back to Charleston, ordering General Davidson, with his division, and General Armstrong, with his brigade, to report to General Wheeler at Cotton Port ferry. Our loss in the expedition to East Tennessee was four men wounded and two captured. We killed and wounded about twenty of the enemy and sent one hundred and twenty prisoners to Dalton.

In closing this report, I desire to pay a just tribute to my officers and men for their gallantry and uncomplaining endurance of all the fatigues and dangers incident to the movements and engagements set forth in this report. The charges made by Armstrong's division (while fighting on foot) in the battle of Chickamauga would be creditable to the best drilled infantry. The officers of my staff have, as on many previous occasions, discharged all duties with promptness and fidelity.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

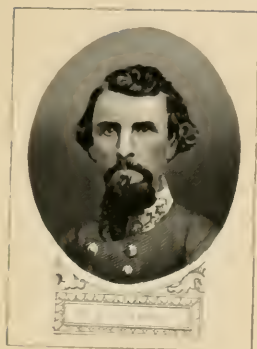
N. B. FORREST,

*Brigadier General commanding.*

P. S.—As soon as official reports can be obtained from General Armstrong's and General Davidson's divisions they will be forwarded. Our losses cannot at present be estimated.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. B. FORREST.







REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN PEGRAM, COM-  
MANDING CAVALRY DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION, }  
Near Chickamauga Station, September 24, 1863. }

To Major J. P. STRANGE,

*Assistant Adjutant General Forrest's Cavalry Corps:*

MAJOR: In obedience to orders, I have the honor to make the following report of the recent combats of my command with the enemy:

The first of these occurred near Graysville, on the 10th instant, when, being out on a reconnoissance with the sixth Georgia cavalry, (Colonel Hart,) it was reported the enemy had thrown himself between Colonel Scott and myself. Deeming the opening of communication with Scott most important, I ordered Colonel Hart to charge the enemy with two companies of his command. This he most gallantly did, and brought out fifty-nine prisoners—being the skirmishers of Palmer's division—from within sight of the masses of the enemy. The second engagement with the enemy was on the 12th instant, near Lee's tan-yard, where we fought for two hours Wilder's lightning brigade of mounted infantry. My force engaged in this fight was the sixth Georgia and Rucker's legion. It would be impossible to pay too high a tribute to the daring gallantry of my small force in this unequal conflict with the picked brigade of General Crittenden's corps. For a time the fight was almost literally hand to hand. I was forced back only about four hundred yards, which point I held during the night. My loss in this fight was fifty killed and wounded, numbering some of my most valuable young officers. A correct list of killed and wounded will be forwarded. Our next meeting with the foe was on Saturday, the 19th instant, on the memorable field of "the Chickamauga." Brigadier General Davidson, having reported for duty, was assigned to the command of my old brigade. He was ordered to take position near Reed's saw mill. Before reaching it, he met and drove before him the enemy's pickets, capturing some few of them. Some time after this skirmish, whilst General Forrest and I were in front examining the roads, General Davidson was attacked suddenly upon his left. Hurrying back, I found it somewhat difficult, aided by General Davidson and all my officers, to get the command in a proper position to repel the fierce attacks of the enemy's infantry. All the available force was soon, however, well posted, under the general direction of General Forrest. It became at once apparent to all that we were fighting overpowering numbers. General Forrest, having sent several messages for the infantry to come up, finally went for them himself, ordering me hold the position until their arrival. In obeying this order, our loss was about one-fourth of the command, including several officers. Nearly every colonel of the brigade had a horse shot under him. Although the highest praise is due to all the gallant men engaged in this (for cavalry) remarkable fight, I must not omit men-

tioning particularly Colonel Goode, of the tenth Confederate cavalry, whose horse was shot, and Captain Arnold, sixteenth battalion Tennessee cavalry, who was badly wounded. Our next engagement with the enemy was Colonel Minty's brigade mounted infantry, being a part of the rear-guard of General Rosencranz's army. After driving his skirmishers for more than a mile, we found him strongly posted on Missionary ridge. We drove him from one fine position, but were unable to dislodge him from the summit; from which, however, he retired during the night. In holding the ground gained, my command was subjected to a heavy fire of canister at three hundred yards range. Both General Davidson and Colonel Scott lost several men, among whom, I regret to say, was the gallant Lieutenant Colonel Fain, of the sixth Georgia, badly wounded. The steadfastness with which both brigades bore this artillery fire was admirable in the extreme, especially as evincing the discipline of the men. General Davidson again met the enemy on the 22d. on the Chattanooga and Harrison road. With a part of his brigade he attacked and routed the fifty-ninth Ohio infantry, took a number of prisoners, arms, &c., and was prevented from capturing the brigade entire only by a mistake of one of his own regiments, which fired upon the portion headed by himself.

It will be observed that my report is confined to the operations of the brigade lately commanded by myself. This is because the other brigades of the division have, in the exigencies of the service, been separated from me. For Colonel Scott's operations, I refer you to his report, herewith enclosed.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN PEGRAM,

*Brigadier General commanding Division Cavalry.*

N. B.—General Davidson will furnish you, at the earliest opportunity, with a complete list of the casualties and captured property.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN PEGRAM,

*Brigadier General.*

REPORT OF COLONEL J. L. SCOTT, COMMANDING  
CAVALRY BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS SCOTT'S CAVALRY BRIGADE, }  
Chickamauga, September 24, 1863. }

Major A. R. H. RANSOM,

*A. A. G. Pegram's Division of Cavalry:*

MAJOR: In accordance with orders from Brigadier General Pegram, I herewith forward my report of the operations of this brigade during the recent active operations of this army: After covering the evacuation of East Tennessee, and removing all stores on the lines of railroad as far as Ringgold, Georgia, I reported to General Pegram, on the Chattanooga and Lafayette road. On the 11th instant, under orders from General Forrest, I proceeded to Ringgold, where I encountered the advance of the enemy, General Crittenden's corps, and, after a sharp skirmish, fell back towards Dalton, to a strong position, which I held for two hours. Forced from it, I retreated slowly on to Tunnel hill, fighting the enemy at every available point until night, when re-inforcements from the command of General Forrest, who had been present during the day directing the movements, arrived. The next morning the enemy retired, and, following them, I skirmished heavily with their rear, on the 12th and 13th instants, as far as the Lafayette road, near Lee's tan-yard.

On the 14th, under orders from General Forrest, I returned to Ringgold, and remained near that place until the evening of the 17th instant, when the enemy again advanced upon Ringgold from the direction of Grayville. I marched out to meet them and drove them back. That night the enemy encamped about five miles from Ringgold, on the Chattanooga road, with four regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and a battery. About midnight, with four companies of the second Tennessee cavalry and one piece of artillery, I surprised their camp, throwing the whole force into confusion. After a sharp fight, I retired to my camp at Ringgold, the enemy not following.

On the 18th, by command of General Pegram, I proceeded to Red house, nine miles from Chattanooga, and drove in the advance of the enemy's reserve corps under General Granger. On the 19th I marched and engaged the enemy, seven regiments of infantry and a battery, with two hundred men from my command, composed of the second and fifth Tennessee, first Louisiana, the detachment of Morgan's command, and the Louisiana battery of two rifle pieces and two mountain howitzers. After a fierce engagement of several hours, during which I drove the enemy more than two miles and disabled one of their guns, my ammunition failing, I withdrew to my camp at the creek, the enemy too much exhausted to pursue. On the 21st, I held the left of the road in General Pegram's attack upon Missionary hill, and on the 22d, under orders from Major General Cheatham, I proceeded on his right, and, crossing Missionary ridge, descended in

the valley to the Western and Atlantic railroad, about three miles from Chattanooga. Here I encountered the fifty-ninth Ohio infantry, and drove them, in confusion, into Chattanooga. Following up, I attacked the enemy in his entrenchments, and drove them from their first line of rifle-pits. Night coming on, General Pegram ordered me to withdraw my command to the top of the ridge, and on the next morning to this place.

It is impossible to state the loss of the enemy, but, from all information obtained, their loss in killed and wounded on the 19th amounted to over one hundred, besides one of General Whitaker's staff officers and seven privates prisoners. My entire prisoners amount to four commissioned officers and thirty privates. On the 22d I captured about seventy-five fine rifles for my unarmed men.

My own loss foots up as follows: In the second Tennessee—Killed: officers, two; privates, three. Wounded: officers, one; men, thirteen. In the fifth Tennessee cavalry—Killed: men, two. Wounded: officers, two; privates, twelve. In the detachment of General Morgan's command—Killed: three men. Wounded: officers, one; men, six. In the first Louisiana, one man wounded; and in the Louisiana battery, three men wounded and fifteen horses killed. Total killed, two officers and eight men. Wounded: officers, four; men, thirty-five. Total loss, forty-nine.

Of the conduct of both officers and men I cannot speak too highly. All displayed the utmost bravery and gallantry. When every one did so well, it is impossible to particularize individual instances of gallantry, but in the death of Captain Ford and Lieutenant Crozier, second Tennessee cavalry, I have lost two brave and gallant officers, whose places it will be most difficult to fill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. SCOTT,

*Colonel commanding Brigade of Cavalry.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL B. R. JOHNSON, COMMANDING DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS CHATTANOOGA, Oct. 24, 1863.

Major W. SELLERS,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the division under my command in the action of the Chickamauga:

At five o'clock, A. M., September 18th, 1863, four brigades and three batteries of artillery from Catoosa station, and vicinity of Ringgold, Georgia, moved, under my command, with orders from headquarters army of Tennessee, to proceed *via* Pleasant Grove church to Lee's tin-yard. Law's brigade, under Colonel Sheffield, not having cooked its rations, was ordered to do so, and follow as promptly as possible. Benning's brigade was left, in compliance with orders, to guard the depot at Ringgold. My command then consisted of the following brigades, which moved in the order in which they are named, viz: Johnson's, McNair's, Gregg's and Robertson's, with batteries, Everett's, Culpeper's and Bledsoe's, in the centre, and trains in rear of their respective brigades. The head of the column had not proceeded more than three miles on the road when a despatch was received from Colonel Brent, headquarters army of Tennessee, directing me, with the forces under my command, to retrace my steps to the vicinity of Ringgold, and there to take the direct road to Reed's bridge and to make a lodgment on the west bank of the Chickamauga, Forrest's cavalry covering the front and right flanks of my column on the march from Ringgold. The command was promptly put on the new line of march, and soon after I received orders and the plan of operations, by which I was directed, as commander of the right column of the army of Tennessee, to attack the enemy in my front, in whatever force I might find them, and, after crossing Reed's bridge, to turn to the left by the most practicable route and sweep up the Chickamauga, towards Lee & Gordon's mill, while Major General's Walker and Buckner, crossing at Alexander's bridge and Leford's ford, were directed to join in my movement. The orders and plans of operations indicated that the attack on the enemy's left wing was expected to be initiated by the column under my command.

About eleven o'clock, A. M., in compliance with orders previously received, I halted the column near Kuler's mill, on the Graysville and Lafayette road, four and a half miles from the former place. Captain Thompson, assistant chief of artillery of General Bragg's staff, reported to me at this point, with orders to move forward immediately, and through him my arrival and the hour thereof was reported to headquarters army of Tennessee.

Being informed by citizens that the enemy were about one mile in advance, I formed a line of battle along the road—McNair's, Johnson's



and Gregg's brigades in front, batteries in position, and Robertson's brigade in reserve. While forming the line, Brigadier General Forrest joined me with his escort, and proceeded to the front to develop the position of the enemy, and was soon skirmishing with them. Just as my line was formed, Major Robertson came up from the direction of Lafayette and reported to me, with eight pieces of artillery. My line of skirmishers in front was now promptly advanced to Peavine creek, which offered some obstructions to regular movements, and caused some delay in crossing the troops. Captain McDonald, of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, opened fire with his company upon the enemy's pickets, about one hundred and eighty yards west of the creek, and repulsed a charge of their reserve, which was made down the road to the creek. Major Robertson placed some four pieces of artillery from his own command and a section of Everett's battery in position, and opened upon the enemy, part of whom were dismounted, driving them back with a section of artillery, which they had posted in good position. As soon as the command could cross the creek, the line, preserving its formation, with Robertson's brigade supporting, McNair's on the right, was pressed forward to the top of the hill, dislodging the enemy from a second position. The cavalry, on the right, kept up the skirmishing during the ascent. We found in front of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment three Yankees killed and one mortally wounded. It was now ascertained that the enemy's force consisted of three or four regiments of mounted men. Pressing down the western declivity of this hill, the enemy were again found in position at Reed's bridge, over which they had passed.

The skirmishers of the twenty-third Tennessee regiment becoming engaged, the whole regiment, supported by the brigade, charged, with a shout and run, and drove off the Yankees before they could destroy the bridge. The twenty-third Tennessee regiment here had five men wounded. After our skirmishers and some of the regiments had passed, the enemy opened a battery on the bridge, which was silenced by a section of Bledscoe's artillery.

Lieutenant Hastings, of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, was wounded at the bridge by the enemy's artillery.

My command commenced crossing the Chickamauga about three o'clock, P. M. Major General Hood having appeared in the column, I reported to him, and submitted to him my orders just before passing the bridge, in person. Having crossed the Chickamauga, partly by the bridge and partly by the ford above the bridge, by four o'clock, P. M., the command advanced to Jay's steam saw mill, about one mile west of Reed's bridge. I ordered the formation to be preserved, and the line of battle, extending across the right hand or western road, to move forward.

General Hood, however, here took command, and directed one regiment of Gregg's brigade to be marched in line of battle, extending across the left hand or eastern road, the other regiments of the command to be moved in the rear along that road in column of companies.



Marching in this order, we proceeded rapidly past a burning house near Alexander's ford, penetrating between the enemy and the Chickamauga to a point nearly opposite their centre, about two miles and a half from the steam saw mill and about one mile west of Dalton's ford, when, in the darkness of the evening, the skirmishers at the head of the column became engaged, and Gregg's brigade was immediately deployed under a sharp fire, which wounded three men, one (first sergeant of company D, seventh Texas regiment) mortally. McNair's and Johnson's brigades were immediately deployed, facing southwest, and supporting Gregg's brigade. Robertson's brigade formed a line near the wagon train in rear, facing northwest, while the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, of Johnson's brigade, remained as rear-guard of the train. Our front line was now about eight hundred yards from Vinyard's house, on the road from Chattanooga to Lee & Gordon's mill. The whole Yankee army was in our front—mainly at Lee & Gordon's mill—on our right flank and rear, while our army was still on the east side of the Chickamauga. My command was the first to cross this stream, and none of our troops crossed at any point until our column had swept the west bank in front of their respective places of crossing. One-third of our forces was required to remain awake during the night, and the rest slept upon their arms.

Obstructions to cavalry were hastily placed in our front, skirmishers were thrown out to the field east of Vinyard's house, one hundred and fifty yards in front of our left flank, and scouts were sent out nearly to the road to Lee & Gordon's mill.

September 19th, 1863. On making an examination of our position, early in the morning, I discovered that our skirmishers were within one hundred and fifty yards of General Preston's division, which had crossed the Chickamauga at Dalton's ford during the night, that our line was in front and nearly perpendicular to his, and that most of our army had crossed at points lower down, placing our column near the left of our army. Major Robertson, with his eight pieces of artillery, was now detached from my command, and Robertson's brigade was united with the other brigades of Hood's division, under Brigadier General Law, which had come up during the night, leaving three brigades under my command; These two divisions were placed under the command of Major General Hood.

Our line of battle was formed about seven o'clock, A. M., in a curve around the crest of an elevation in the woods, about one thousand yards east of the Chattanooga and Lee & Gordon's mill road. My right brigade faced nearly west and my left brigade about southwest. In my division, Johnson's brigade, commanded by Colonel John S. Fulton, of the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, was placed on the right, Gregg's brigade on the left, and McNair's brigade in reserve, in rear of Gregg's brigade. Everett's battery was posted in position on the right of Johnson's brigade, and Bledsoe's first Missouri battery on the right of Gregg's brigade. Captain Culpeper's three guns were held in reserve in rear of McNair's brigade. Law's division was posted on my right and Preston's on my left, a little retired, so that the left of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment, on the left of Gregg's

brigade, was thrown back with a view to form a connection which was never regularly made. The fighting commenced on the right of our army, about half a mile northwest of the burnt house, near Alexander's bridge. The first gun was fired at half past seven, A. M.

About two o'clock, P. M., the enemy in my front advanced and drove in my skirmishers. I ordered Bledsoe's and Everett's batteries to open fire, and Culpeper's battery was brought into action on the left of Gregg's brigade. These guns all fired in a direction bearing towards Vinyard's house, from which direction the attack seemed mainly to come. The right of Gregg's and the left of Johnson's brigades repulsed the attack in that vicinity, but the engagement still continued on the left of Gregg's brigade, where the left regiments were suffering severely. The fiftieth Tennessee regiment lost twelve killed and forty-five wounded before it moved from its position. About half-past two o'clock, P. M., by direction of Major General Hood, having instructed my artillery to move with the infantry and to come into action whenever opportunity permitted, particularly cautioned my command to preserve its connections, to wheel slowly and to touch to the right, I ordered the division to advance and engage the enemy. This movement did not extend to the division on my left. In front of Gregg's brigade the woods presented a thick undergrowth, in which that brigade at once becoming hotly engaged, its progress was impeded, while Johnson's brigade advanced some six hundred yards before the enemy opened fire upon it. The artillery advanced and fired by section, keeping well up with the infantry. Gregg's brigade advanced some three hundred yards, obliquing in endeavoring, under fire, to keep the connection to the right. The connection, however, was broken in the thick woods, between the second and third battalions, the two right regiments preserving their connection with the line on their right, and wheeling with it to the right, the third and fourth regiments, advancing less obliquely, faced more to the south, while the left regiment of that brigade, the fiftieth Tennessee regiment, under Colonel Suggs, moved more directly to its front, which was in a southern direction, owing to the left having been thrown back to connect with Preston's division, and at the same time it stretched out to the right, just north of Vinyard's fields, to cover the increasing interval, until nearly the whole regiment was deployed in open order as skirmishers. This movement of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment was induced by the heavy attack of the enemy on that flank, but it did not succeed in preserving the connection and it became separated from the brigade. In this condition, the brigade fought gallantly and kept up a heavy fire all along its broken line and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

Two regiments of McNair's brigade, the thirty-ninth North Carolina regiment, under Colonel Coleman, and the twenty-fifth Arkansas regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Hupstader, were sent forward between the fiftieth Tennessee regiment and the brigade to which it belongs. These two regiments came up to the left of the seventh Texas regiment, of Gregg's brigade, about four hundred yards in front of the position from which my line had moved, and advanced

gallantly to the road from Chattanooga to Lee & Gordon's mill, north of Vinyard's farm, and left still a wide interval on the right of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment, which regiment continued to present an extended line and to fight gallantly and persistently the heavy forces in front, while its ranks were being continually thinned. It will be seen by the report of Colonel Coleman, of the thirty-ninth North Carolina regiment, forwarded herewith, that the two regiments from Gregg's brigade drove the enemy in rapid flight across the Chattanooga road, and passed a small house in a corn-field west of the road, and north of Vinyard's house; and that here, though the enemy in their front were in flight and broken, those regiments fell back for want of support, and on account of reinforcement received by the enemy, and a flank fire on the left.

In the meantime, the brigade of Brigadier General Robertson, of Hood's division, was brought up and advanced on the right of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment, which now contracted its line and concentrated its fire upon the enemy on the left in the vicinity of Vinyard's. Under the spirited charge and heavy fire of Robertson's brigade, the enemy were driven back some distance. The operations of the brigade will be more properly reported by its division commander. It will, however, be proper for me to state that, during a halt, before Robertson's brigade reached the Chattanooga road, Brigadier General Gregg rode out in front to reconnoitre the enemy's position. He very soon found himself near the enemy's line, and was suddenly halted by the Yankee skirmishers. Turning his horse to ride back to the rear, he was shot through the neck. Having fallen from his horse, the Yankees proceeded to take from his person his epurs and sword, when Robertson's brigade charged forward and recovered possession of him and his horse.

Brigadier General Gregg deserves special commendation for his gallantry and activity on the field. The brigade which he commanded is an excellent one, and is commanded by a worthy and able officer.

Colonel Suggs, of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment, also merits particular notice for the manner in which he from time to time disposed his regiment and protected our flank, which was necessarily exposed in our advance, as the movement did not extend to the division on our left. While these operations were going on in my left brigade, the right one, Johnson's, with which the forty-first Tennessee regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel James D. Tillman, and the third Tennessee regiment, under Colonel C. H. Walker, of Gregg's brigade, preserved their connection, having advanced some six hundred yards, received the fire of the enemy's artillery and infantry and became hotly engaged. The enemy were posted upon rising ground. A battery swept our ranks with grape-shot, while their infantry delivered heavy volleys from small arms. The contest continued here nearly an hour, when the enemy, after a stubborn resistance, gradually retired to an open woods, beyond the road from Chattanooga to Lee & Gordon's mill, approaching the road, a part of the brigade halted and poured its fire into the enemy's ranks, now in full view, two hundred yards in front, again advanced, crossed the road, gained

the cover of the woods on the left of the field in which the enemy's battery was posted, a clearing, with enclosure intervening. The twenty fifth Tennessee regiment, under Lieut. Colonel R. B. Snowden, and part of the twenty-third Tennessee regiment now wheeled to the right, moved on the flank of the battery, gained the cover of a fence north of the clearing, poured into it a few volleys, charged and captured the battery. This was well and gallantly done, and Lieutenant Colonel Snowden, with the officers and men under his command, deserve especial consideration for the manner in which the movement was accomplished. The remainder of the brigade, save about one-third of the right regiment, now crossed the road. The seventeenth Tennessee, the left regiment, had moved about two hundred yards beyond it, and the third and forty-first Tennessee regiments of Gregg's brigade, which had continued to move with Johnson's brigade, had advanced somewhat farther, when the enemy, marching by the flank, suddenly appeared on the left and rear of the last two regiments. Colonel Walker, of the third Tennessee regiment, on discovering this movement, faced his regiment by the rear rank and moved back across the road, while Colonel Tillman hastened to communicate the knowledge of the movement to Colonel Walton, commanding Johnson's brigade. The movement of the enemy down the Chattanooga road was so prompt, that they penetrated our line on the left of Johnson's brigade, filed off to the left and fired a volley into its rear. This brigade now moved by one impulse to the right and fell back to the east of the road from Chattanooga to Lee & Gordon's mill, leaving eleven officers, (including Major Davis, of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment,) sixty men, and the captured battery, in the hands of the enemy. In the meantime the third and forty-first regiments Tennessee volunteers, which were falling to the rear, were placed in position by Captain W. T. Blakemore, my aid-de-camp, who was on duty in that part of the field and discovered this movement of the enemy, and, by his instruction, charged the column which had so suddenly appeared in our rear and drove it back. Colonel Walker now placed these regiments diagonally across the road, the right advanced, facing the enemy, in which position I ordered him to remain for a time. I have no doubt that we have encountered a portion of McCook's corps of the Federal army, moving to support their left. Our scouts thrown out in front of our skirmishers, and my brigade inspector, Lieutenant Black, after a personal reconnaissance, had previously reported the enemy moving artillery and infantry in that direction. With the heavy force of the enemy still in vicinity of Lee & Gordon's mill and this advance of my division, unsupported by any movement on my left, was pushed quite as far as was judicious.

Finding my line now, about sunset, quite irregular in its formation, I proceeded immediately to reform it, in the woods, about six hundred yards east of the road from Chattanooga to Lee & Gordon's mill, when, by order of Major General Hood, temporary breastworks of timber were put up along the line, behind which my command rested during the night, with skirmishers thrown out to the road. During this brief engagement, the loss of the division was quite



McGowan





heavy. The third Tennessee regiment reports twelve men killed and forty-five wounded before it was ordered to advance. The seventh Texas regiment had several killed and wounded at the same time. Lieutenant Colonel Thomas W. Beaumont, well and honorably known in civil as well as military life, Captain Williams and two other company officers of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment were killed, seven officers wounded and one missing, while it lost heavily in men. The forty-fourth Tennessee regiment had Lieutenant Colonel John L. McEwing, Jr., commanding, a gallant and able officer, who has rendered faithful and efficient service in our army, and five company officers wounded, one (Captain Samuel Jackson) mortally. It lost about fifty men wounded and six killed, one of whom (Sergeant T. A. Johnson) was particularly distinguished for gallantry. The command of this regiment now devolved upon Major G. M. Crawford. The seventeenth Tennessee regiment had one officer killed and two officers and twenty men wounded. Colonel N. B. Granbury, of the seventh Texas, Major S. H. Colmes, of the first Tennessee battalion, and Major Lowe, of the twenty-third Tennessee regiment, were severely wounded. The twenty-third Tennessee lost, in all, one officer and five men killed, five officers wounded, and fifty-eight men wounded and captured. The losses of the other regiments are not reported in this connection. Captain Jackson, of the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, has since died of his wounds. Known to me long and familiarly in youth and manhood as Captain Samuel Jackson has been, I feel unable to do justice to his many virtues, his pure and admirable character, or his merits as an officer and soldier.

On Sunday, September 20th, 1863, my line was formed by seven o'clock, A. M., with McNair's brigade on the right, Johnson's brigade in the centre, and two regiments—the fiftieth Tennessee regiment and the first Tennessee battalion, consolidated, under Major C. W. Robertson, and the seventh Texas, under Major Van Zant—on the left. The rest of Gregg's brigade, commanded by Colonel Suggs, formed a second line. Cussepper's battery was placed in position on the right of McNair's brigade, Everett's on the right of Johnson's brigade, and Bledsoe's on the right of the two regiments in the front line from Gregg's brigade. Hindman's division formed on my left, and Stewart's on my right; Hood's division, commanded by Brigadier-General Law, formed in rear of my division, giving us a depth of three lines. About ten o'clock, A. M., our skirmishers fell back under the advance of the enemy. My line promptly opened a steady fire with artillery and small arms, which soon repulsed the attack. Ten minutes after eleven o'clock, A. M., a general advance was ordered, which, commencing somewhere on the right, included Hindman's division on the left. The enemy occupied the ground in our front, along the road leading from Chattanooga to Lee & Gordon's mill. Their line was formed along the fence at Brotherton's house, and they had a battery in the open field south of the house, where Johnson's brigade had captured a battery on Saturday. The enemy also occupied two lines of breastworks, made of rails and timber, extending along my front and to the left of it, in the woods west of



Brotherton's farm. By order of Major General Hood, I moved my division forward and at once engaged the enemy. We advanced about six hundred yards through the woods, under a heavy fire of artillery and infantry, which swept our ranks with terrific effect, and crossed the road to Lee & Gordon's mill, the left brigades of my division passing on either side of Brotherton's house. Our charge was irresistible, and the Yankees who did not flee were killed and captured at the fences and out-houses. Among the latter is especially mentioned Colonel F. A. Bartleson, of the one hundredth Illinois regiment, who was captured, with many others, by Johnson's brigade.

Everett's battery now took a position in a field south of Brotherton's house and opened to the front and left, firing about six rounds to the piece, and my line again moved forward under a heavy fire from the enemy's breastworks. The fire was so heavy that my right brigade faltered for a moment and some of the men commenced falling back, but it was soon rallied and moving forward again. My whole line, Gregg's brigade in rear, supported by Hood's division, under Law, in a third line, swept forward with great force and rapidity and carried the breastworks, from which the foe precipitately retreated, under a heavy fire, particularly directed to the left, from my left brigade. Having advanced some distance in the woods west of Brotherton's farm, to the foot of a small ascent covered with a thick growth of young pines, my right brigade halted under the effect of a heavy fire, which was also severely damaging my second line. Colonel Suggs now pushed to the front the three regiments of Gregg's brigade which had formed my second line, Johnson's brigade moving to the left at the same time, and again my line advanced rapidly on the enemy, driving them from the woods east of Dyer's house, McNair's brigade bearing to the right.

Our lines now emerged from the forest into open ground on the border of long open fields, over which the enemy were retreating, under cover of several batteries, which were ranged along the crest of a ridge on our right and front, running up to the corner of a stubble-field, and of one battery on our left and front, posted on an elevation in the edge of the woods, just at the corner of a field near a peach orchard and southwest of Dyer's house. The scene now presented was unspeakably grand. The resolute and impetuous charge, the rush of our heavy columns, sweeping out from the shadow and gloom of the forest into the open fields, flooded with sunlight, the glitter of arms, the onward dash of artillery and mounted men, the retreat of the foe, the shouts of the hosts of our army, the dust, the smoke, the noise of fire-arms, of whistling balls and grape-shot, and of bursting shell, made up a battle scene of unsurpassed grandeur. Here General Hood gave me the last order I received from him on the field: "Go ahead and keep ahead of everything." How this order was obeyed will be best determined by those who investigate all the details of this battle.

The unusual depth of our columns of attack, in this part of the field and the force and power with which it was thrown upon the enemy's line had now completely broken and routed their centre and

cast the shattered fragments to the right and left. Everett's battery was here ordered into action on the right of Johnson's brigade and opened upon the retreating foe, while my line continued to advance.

There was now an interval of eight hundred yards between Hindman's division on my left and my command. Johnson's brigade, on the left, bore but slightly to the right, its left regiment stretching across the road from Dyer's house to Crawfish road, and passing on both sides of the house. Gregg's brigade, in the centre, moved a little to the right, so as to flank and capture nine pieces of artillery, on its right, posted on the ascent to the eminence, in the corner of the field north of Dyer's house. McNair's brigade, now somewhat in rear of the two left brigades, moved obliquely to the right and directly upon the eminence. My line was here uncovered by Hood's division, which must have changed its direction to the right.

The nine pieces captured by Gregg's brigade are reported by Col. Soggs, commanding, as having been taken from the field by a detail under Adjutant Fletcher Beaumont, of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment, who caused the Yankee drivers to drive some of the teams to the rear. Four of these pieces—three-inch rifles—belonged to the first Missouri Federal battery, and are now in possession of the first Missouri Confederate battery, (Bledsoe's,) attached to Gregg's brigade. A statement made by Adjutant Beaumont in regard to the capture is herewith enclosed.

In this advance, Brigadier General E. McNair, commanding the right brigade, and Colonel Harper, of the first Arkansas regiment, of that brigade, were wounded—the latter mortally, and the command of McNair's brigade devolved upon Colonel Coleman, of the thirty-ninth North Carolina regiment. Colonel Coleman reports that McNair's brigade charged and carried the eminence in the corner of the field to our right, capturing the ten guns, eight of which were immediately carried off, and two were subsequently removed, and that the brigade fell back for want of ammunition and support, and formed on the left of Robertson's brigade, of Hood's division. Whether Colonel Coleman's report has any reference, in this connection, to the nine guns, reported as captured by Gregg's brigade, or whether there is any point of dispute between these two brigades as to captured artillery, I cannot now determine. McNair's brigade has been detached from this army, and I am unable to communicate with it in time to make my report explicit on this point.

In the meantime, I discovered what I conceived to be an important position, directly in our front—an elevated ridge of open ground, running nearly north and south, beyond the narrow strips of woods on the western borders of the open fields in our front and about six hundred yards west of the elevation on which the nine pieces of artillery had been captured, and I hastened to press forward Gregg's brigade, which had halted for a moment on the flank of the guns that were being removed, while Johnson's brigade approached the same position from the left. From the crest of this ridge the ground descended abruptly into a cornfield and cove, lying south of Villetoe's house. West of the cove is a range of the Missionary ridge, while

north of it a spur of that ridge spreads out to the east. Through a gap at the angle between this spur on the north and the ridge on the west of the cove and about one thousand yards from the ridge on the east, where my division was now taking position, passes the Crawfish road, which continues south along the base of the ridge on the western side of the cove. Along this road a line of telegraph wires extended from Chattanooga to General Rosencranz's headquarters, and at the gorge of the gap a train of wagons filled the road, while a number of caissons and a battery of artillery, for defence of the train, occupied the grounds near Villetoe's house.

The ridge on the east of the cove was taken without resistance, though the enemy had there constructed a breastwork of rails, and had filled up a large number of their knapsacks, secure, as they doubtless thought, from the danger of the battle-field. As soon as this ridge was occupied, which was a few minutes before twelve, M., our advance position, commanded by adjacent hills and separated on the right and left as far as I could see from our troops, induced me immediately to send my aid-de-camp, Captain Blakemore, to report our position to Lieutenant General Longstreet, commanding our wing, and to bring up artillery and infantry to our support, while I disposed of my command for defence. Gregg's brigade was at once posted, partly facing to the north, at the edge of the woods at the north end of the field, and partly facing to the west, along a portion of the adjacent ridge. Johnson's brigade was posted, facing to the west, on the crest of the ridge, about one hundred yards to the left of Gregg's brigade. Both brigades immediately advanced their skirmishers to the front.

When I discovered the train of wagons at the gorge of the Crawfish road, the enemy were making every effort to get them away. I promptly posted Everett's battery on the ridge between Johnson's and Gregg's brigades, when it opened fire on the train. The fire of the artillery and some shots from our advancing skirmishers, created the utmost consternation among the drivers and teams, causing some of the wagons to be upset, and others to be run against trees and up the precipitous acclivities adjacent. Lieutenant Everett also sent forward one piece of artillery to a knoll in the corn-field, south of Villetoe's house, which fired up the gorge along the Crawfish road. A few shots were fired upon us from a battery of the enemy posted on the high ground north of our position, to which Everett's artillery replied, firing about six rounds, when the enemy ceased firing on us. A ball from Lieutenant Everett's battery dismounted one of the guns (a rifle piece) near Villetoe's house, by breaking the axletree. Our skirmishers now advanced and took possession of the wagons, caissons and guns. Lieutenant Everett sent forward two teams and hauled off one Napoleon gun and caisson, attaching, for that purpose, the limber of a six-pound gun found near by the Napoleon, for which no limber was found. This gun has since been ascertained to be one of the guns of Lumsden's battery, captured by the enemy on the 19th, and has been returned to that battery. Beside the two pieces above-named, a six-pounder smooth-bore and another piece, description not now known, and seven caissons were captured. The wagons con-

tained some quartermaster's property, but were mainly loaded with ammunition for artillery and infantry. Two of General Rosencranz's escort and Captain Hescok, of the first Missouri Federal light artillery, battery G, were captured on the side of the ridge west of Villetoe's house, where many other prisoners were picked up by our skirmishers. My engagements were such at this period as to prevent me from looking after or estimating the number or value of articles captured. Many of the wagons were subsequently removed by other commands in rear of mine. I now estimate the wagons captured at about thirty, a few of which had teams attached.

Before making any disposition for a further advance, I found it necessary to replenish our supply of ammunition, and, consequently, I ordered up a supply from the rear and distributed it to the most of the regiments of my command. Subsequently we drew our ammunition from the captured train. Lieutenant Black, of my staff, now brought up Dent's battery of Napoleon guns, of Hindman's division, which he found somewhere on our left, and placed three pieces on the ridge in the northwest corner of the field we occupied. No general officer or reinforcements having come up, and seeing no troops in my vicinity, my aids having been long absent in search of support, I became impatient at the delay. Giving orders that our position should be held at all hazards, I galloped off, in person, in search of support. Having swung slightly to the right from our first position, the connection was broken on our left, and I could see no troops in that direction. It subsequently appears that General Hindman's division gallantly drove back to the west and south the enemy's line in his front and on my left, inflicting a heavy loss on them and thus relieving us from danger in that direction.

Riding towards our right and rear some half a mile, I came upon Brigadier General Kershaw advancing with his brigade through the open field upon the eminence near to which we had captured the battery of nine guns in our advance, and where I saw the United States flag now floating, the position having been reoccupied by the enemy. Here I learned that Major General Hood had been wounded. Colonel Cunningham, of his staff, informed me that Brigadier General Kershaw's brigade was much needed to attack the position in its front, and I consequently had to seek further for support. I sent Captain Blackmore, who joined me here, to find and bring up General McNair's brigade, and, after riding sometime, I found on the road, approaching my command, Major General Hindman and Brigadier General Anderson, to whom my aid had communicated my necessities and wishes. Being informed that Brigadier General Deas' brigade would move to support my left and that General Anderson was then advancing to fill up the vacancy on my right, I returned to my command with a view to driving the enemy from my flank, directed Dent's battery to open fire to the rear of the eminence, about six hundred yards to our right, on which I had seen the United States flag floating, and on which I left Kershaw's brigade advancing.

More than an hour had now been spent in this position, and I resolved to press forward my line, even before support reached me.

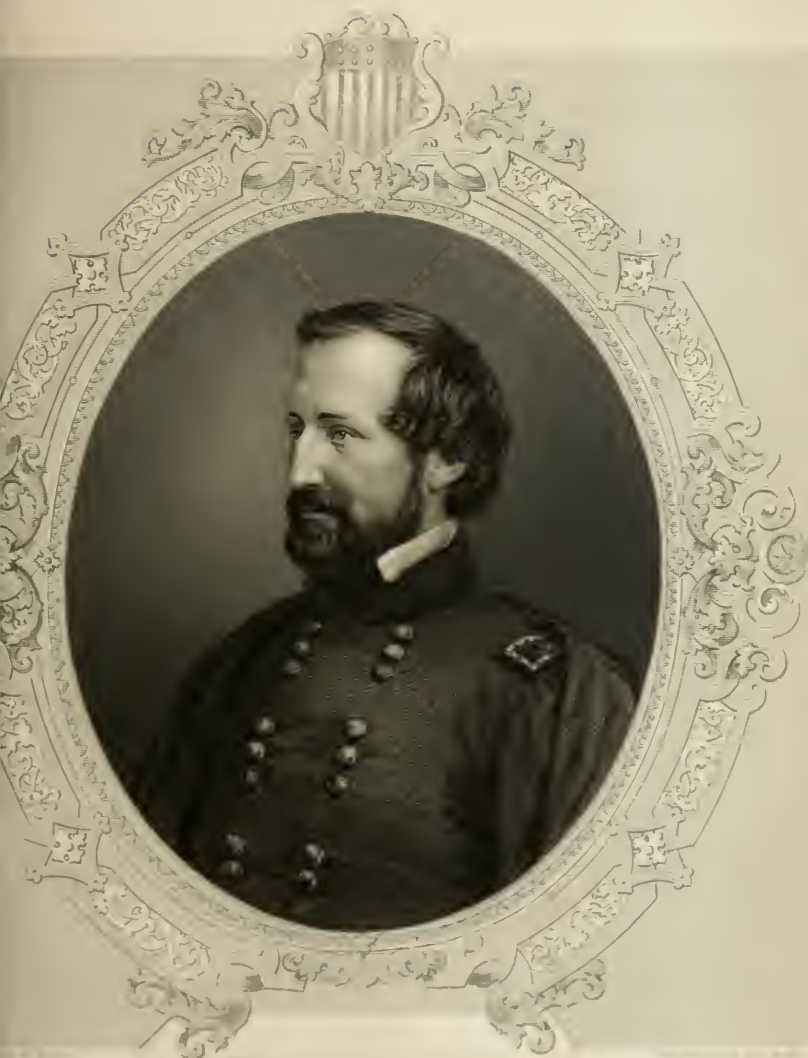


I therefore proceeded to form my line, facing to the north, along and in continuation of the north end of the field; Gregg's brigade on the right and Johnson's brigade on the left, extending through the corn-field south of Villetoes' house and to the Crawfish road. My line being formed, I was advised that the enemy occupied the ridge beyond Villetoes' corn-field and west of the Crawfish road, and it therefore became necessary to protect our left flank by skirmishers thrown out in that direction from Johnson's brigade. The advance commenced about the time Deas' brigade formed, facing to the west, on the ridge we had just left. I directed Brigadier General Deas' to move his brigade directly to its front until his right flank should reach the position of my left, then to wheel to the right, sweeping the ridge west of the Crawfish road, and come up and form on the left of my line of battle.

The crest of the spur of Missionary ridge north of Villetoes' house extends east and west in its general direction, but crosses to the south about the middle. At the east and west ends of the crest are the most elevated points of the spurs. On the slope north of the west end is Sackgrass' house, at which were the headquarters of Generals Rosenkrantz and Thomas during the latter part of the battle. Towards the south the slope from the crest is gradual for some distance in several places; and especially so at the west end, and terminates towards the cove in an abrupt, secreted declivity, presenting to our approach from the south several secondary spurs or knobs, with intervening short ravines. Along the crest of this spur the last desperate struggle of the northern army was made at the battle of Chickamauga.

Gregg's and Johnson's brigades, followed by Dent's and Everett's batteries, advanced in line towards the north, the left passing over the wagons, caissons and pieces of artillery near Villetoes' house and reaching to the Crawfish road. There were a number of wounded Federals at Villetoes' house. The ladies of the family, who had taken shelter from danger on Saturday and Sunday beneath the floor, now burst forth and greeted our soldiers with slapping of hands and shouts of joy, presenting an impressive scene. The brow of the secondary spurs north of Villetoes' house were gained without resistance by Gregg's and Johnson's brigades, and by Anderson's, which had come up on our right, during our advance. The line was then halted, the alignment connected, and the two regiments of Gregg's brigade which were formed on the left of my line in the morning now returned to their brigade. Four of Dent's Napoleon guns and Everett's battery of three guns were placed in position on the spur occupied by Johnson's brigade, and two pieces of Dent's battery were placed upon the hill with Gregg's brigade. There was now no support on the left of Johnson's brigade, though Deas' brigade was every moment expected there.

A few minutes before two o'clock, P. M., after the artillery had opened fire, the order was given to advance from this position with a view of gaining the main crest of the ridge in our front, which was some one thousand yards distant on our left, but much nearer on our right on account of its curvature to the south in the middle. The



*W. A. Rensselaer*





enemy opened fire upon our left before it advanced one hundred yards. Our movement was, however, continued for a time, until my left formed a position in which it was enabled to hold the enemy in check. But the Federals moved up on our flank along a secondary spur, which united at the elevation at the west end of the main ridge with that upon which Johnson's brigade was fighting, and this movement was held in check sometime by our troops firing obliquely to the left. The advance of Brigadier General Anderson on our extreme right was a gallant and impetuous charge. It encountered a heavy force of the enemy posted in a strong position, from which they poured a volume of fire that speedily repulsed the charge. Gregg's brigade gained the crest of the ridge, after a sharp contest driving the foe down the northern slope of the ridge and delivering a damaging fire in the retreating masses; but the enemy returned to the attack, and there being now no support on our right, the line commenced falling back on the flank, just after Lieutenant Colonel Tillman, commanding the forty-first Tennessee regiment, was disabled by a wound. The third Tennessee regiment, with about forty men of the fiftieth Tennessee and seventh Texas regiments, on the left of this brigade, claims to have held its advanced position until Johnson's brigade fell back under the flank movement of the enemy on its left. In retiring, this regiment had six men captured. As my line fell back, our artillery opened with canister, and was gallantly served under fire of the enemy's infantry until the troops, rallying in line at the batteries, repulsed the charge of the foe.

I now gave orders to hold the hill, and await the reinforcements from Hindman's division momentarily expected. Soon Manigault's brigade was seen advancing in line of battle through Villetoe's cornfield, in the cove in our rear. As it came up on the left of my line, Brigadier General Deas reported in person, having with his brigade swept the ridge west of the Crawfish road. Having sent a staff officer to place these two brigades in line on my left, I rode toward the right, and met General Hindman, who directed me to take command of the left wing and wheel to the right, making the right of my division the pivot. McNair's brigade, under Colonel Coleman, now came up and formed a line in rear of the left of my division. I also detailed McNair's brigade to assist in working the guns of Dent's battery.

Our line, from left to right, was formed of brigades in the following order, Deas', Manigault's, Johnson's, Gregg's and Anderson's, with McNair's brigade in rear of Johnson's. Deas' brigade occupied the brow of the steep spur which forms the north side of the gorge, through which the Crawfish road passes Missionary ridge. Manigault's stretched across the ravine and extended up the side of the adjacent spur to the right, on which Johnson's and McNair's brigades, with seven pieces of artillery, were posted. Gregg's brigade was formed on a spur of some greater length, extending more toward the east, and separated in part from the main ridge by a hollow, with a piece of table land at its head to the west. Anderson's brigade was formed in two lines on the right, the front line extending up to the

slope of the spur on which Gregg's brigade was formed, on the left and across the hollow on the right. The section of Dent's artillery with Gregg's brigade in the last attack was now moved to the hollow on the right, ready to be run up by hand on the main ridge as soon as it should be carried. Kershaw's brigade was somewhere on the right of, but not connected with, Anderson's brigade.

I proceeded in person to put the line in motion. Commencing with Deas' brigade, and giving careful instructions to preserve the dress and connection to the right, I passed along the line until I saw it all gallantly moving forward. A most obstinate struggle now commenced for the possession of this spur of Missionary ridge--the last stronghold of the enemy on the battle-field of Chickamauga. Our artillery opened on the brow of the ridge, and the infantry became immediately engaged. The firing was very heavy on both sides, and showed that the enemy were in strong force in our front, supported by artillery posted near the junction of the two spurs on which Deas' and Johnson's brigades respectively moved. Our line pressed determinedly forward for some time, keeping up an incessant fire with small arms. But the enemy now evidently received reinforcements of fresh troops, which advanced with a shout that was heard all along our lines, and we were driven back to our guns. It was subsequently ascertained from prisoners captured that the reinforcements were a part of General Granger's corps, which we fought the rest of the day. Deas' brigade, and the part of Manigault's next to it, fell back to the foot of the hill; Anderson's fell back to its first position, and these three brigades, save two regiments of Manigault's next to Johnson's brigade, did not again enter the fight.

In falling back on the spur on which Johnson's brigade and the two batteries fought, McNair's brigade, which formed a second line, mingled with the troops of the first line on the left of Johnson's and the right of the two regiments of Manigault's brigade, and continued to fight in that position during the rest of the day. The retreat on this hill was precipitate, and called for all the exertions I could command to prevent many of the troops from abandoning it. The officers, however, joined with every energy and zeal in the effort to stay the retreat, and by appeals, commands and physical efforts, all save a few who persisted in skulking behind trees or lying idly on the ground, were brought up to our lines in support of the artillery. In the meantime our batteries were promptly opened and gallantly served amid a shower of the enemy's bullets, and, together with the best and bravest of our infantry, who promptly rallied on our artillery, poured such a volume of fire upon the advancing foe that his onward progress was effectually stayed.

I cannot here speak too highly of the gallantry of the men and officers of Dent's and Evood's batteries on this occasion. It elicited my highest admiration, and I at once endeavored involuntarily to express personally to the commanders my high appreciation of the work they had so nobly done. It is claimed by Johnson's brigade that they rallied to a man at the battery. I may be permitted to say for these noble men, with whom I have so long been associated, that I

Oct 2-11

Dear Sirs with  
kind regards

Mr & Mrs K &  
7 St Louis of Ave  
9th Ave Bate

Respectfully forwarded  
approved

W. C. Bickel

Major 4th Regt 1st Cal

Comd 4th Regt 1st Cal  
San Francisco

San Francisco

High St

1st Cal Brigade

Oct 11

Adm. B. Anderson  
Sept 15, 1863

Respectfully for-  
warded.

T. C. Anderson

Major 4th Regt 1st Cal

Resd 4th Regt 1st Cal

Oct 11, 1863

San Francisco



then felt that every man in the brigade was a hero. Of Gregg's brigade I can speak in no less exalted terms. All, indeed, who now participated in this final, protracted and trying struggle merit the highest praise.

All our troops had now suffered severely here and in other parts of the field. Hindman's division, it is understood, had been especially weakened in the conflict before it came to our support. Neither McNair's, Gregg's or Johnson's brigades mustered over five hundred guns. The part of Manigault's brigade adjacent to my division, about two regiments, under Colonel Reed, of the thirty-fourth Alabama regiment, participated in the invincible spirit which fired our men and continued to fight with us. I ordered that the hill should be held at all hazards, and determined that all should be lost before I would abandon it. I felt that this position (on the extreme left) was one of the utmost importance and might determine the fate of the day. Indeed, defeat here would have let the enemy's right swing back around our left flank, over the strong positions we had won; and here, as at Murfreesboro', where all our movements on the left had been very similar, a chance for victory might be lost.

About this time my aid, Captain W. T. Blakemore, reported to me some two hundred men of Benning's brigade, in our rear, under command of a major, whose name is not recollected. Upon going to it, the officer in command reported it utterly unserviceable on account of its having been cut up and demoralized. I consequently did not put it in the fight.

The enemy were not whipped, and the conflict still raged with varying fortune. Repeatedly our men advanced, and were in turn forced to yield a portion of the ground they had gained. I directed our men to advance as far as possible, then hold their position and never retreat. We thus gradually approached the crest of the ridge.

At about five, P. M., I sent my acting aid-de-camp, Lieutenant George Marchbanks, Confederate States army, back to the foot of the ridge to request Brigadier Generals Deas and Manigault to bring up their brigades to my support. Lieutenant Marchbanks reports that Brigadier General Deas replied that, on consultation with Brigadier General Manigault, they had decided that it would not be safe to put their commands in the same position without the support of fresh troops.

Over three hours passed in this conflict, in which officers and men toiled on and manifested more perseverance, determination and endurance than I have ever before witnessed on any field. We had now slowly driven the enemy on the left, up the gradual ascent, about half a mile, to the coveted crest of the ridge, where they made the last desperate resistance; and our lines gradually grew stronger and stronger under the animating hope of victory so nearly within our grasp. It was finally nearly sunset when a simultaneous advance swept along our whole lines, and, with a shout, we drove the enemy from the ridge, and pursued them far down the northern slope to the bottom of the deep hollow beyond. We had now completely flanked and passed to the rear of the position of the enemy on the ridge to our

right, and I am convinced we thus aided in finally carrying the heights south of Snodgrass' house.

About the time the ridge was carried, Colonel Trigg, of Preston's division, reported to me with a part of his brigade. I sent Captain Terry, of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, who was wounded and mounted on horseback, to place Trigg's command on our right, and it relieved Gregg's brigade, which was out of ammunition.

I now proceeded to reform my line, which, in the pursuit, I regret to say, was entirely broken, owing in part to the peculiar conformation of the ground over which we passed. I still hoped to follow up the retreating foe.

After I ordered McNair's and Johnson's brigades to form on Trigg's, this brigade suddenly disappeared, called away, no doubt, to co-operate with Kelly's brigade in capturing the two regiments of General Granger's corps which surrendered to them about dark. I felt now that it would be unsafe to advance, disconnected as my command was, and it being now dark, nearly eight o'clock, P. M. I withdrew it some two hundred and fifty yards to a good position near the top of the ridge, threw out pickets to the front and sent scouts to find the enemy.

My line was arranged for the night in the following order:

The two regiments of Manigault's brigade, under Colonel Reed, of the thirty-fourth Alabama regiment, and the left thrown back to protect our flank, and in succession to the right were aligned Johnson's, McNair's and Gregg's brigades. On my right Trigg's and Kelly's subsequently formed. About eight o'clock at night, abandoning all hopes of advancing further, I rode away and searched until about eleven o'clock for the headquarters of the army or the wing, with a view to making a report of my position. Failing in this attempt, I returned to my command worn out with the toils of the day. The following morning revealed to us the fact that the enemy had left us in possession of the field. Details were now made to collect the spoils and bury the dead.

I ought here to mention the heroic efforts on the part of officers and men which came under my observation, but, for want of personal acquaintance with the parties, I cannot do justice to all. I especially noticed the faithful toil and heroic conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Reynolds, of the first battalion of dismounted rifles, McNair's brigade, who was conspicuous in his efforts to preserve our lines and encourage and press on our men. For hours he, with many other officers, faithfully and incessantly labored in this duty. In this connection I must, in justice, mention Colonel J. S. Fulton, of the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, commanding Johnson's brigade; Colonel R. H. Keble, of the twenty-third Tennessee regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Floyd and Captain Terry, of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Snowden, and Acting Adjutant Gregg, of the twenty-fifth Tennessee regiment. To Colonel Suggs, I feel especially indebted for his gallant, able and efficient services in commanding Gregg's brigade. He is a good and meritorious officer. Colonel



Walker and Lieutenant Colonel Clack, of the third Tennessee; Colonel Grace of the tenth Tennessee; Captain Curtis, of the fiftieth Tennessee, and Captain Osburn, of the forty-first Tennessee regiments, all of Gregg's brigade, merit special commendation for their services in this protracted struggle. To the courage and fortitude of the men of this brigade, as well as to every other brigade which struggled with them in our last persistent efforts to drive the enemy from their final position, I trust the proper sense of gratitude will be awarded. Colonel Coleman, commanding McNair's brigade, did gallant service and carried his command faithfully through all the varying fortunes of the field, on the left, to the very close of the fight. I regret that I am unable to specify more particularly the services of meritorious officers of this brigade.

I beg leave to call attention to the efficient use made of artillery in my command. My purpose in accordance with preconceived notions, was to keep my artillery employed to the utmost practicable extent in conjunction with my infantry; and my little experience on this battle field, only determines me on all like occasions to improve on my practice of this day.

I need add nothing more in acknowledgment of the services of Captain Dent and Lieutenant Everett commanding batteries in my lines, or of the gallantry of the men under their commands.

I have to regret that no report has been furnished me by Captain Culpeper, commanding the battery attached to McNair's brigade; and I also regret that neither this battery nor Blalock's first Missouri battery, commanded by First Lieutenant R. Wood, and attached to Gregg's brigade, for reasons not known to me, followed their brigades or participated in our fight for Missionary ridge, where they would have won unfading laurels for every officer and man attached to them.

The gallant conduct of my brigade inspector, Second Lieutenant M. W. Black, of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, distinguished him throughout my command, and I feel that I can scarcely do justice to his services. He was always in the moments of severest conflict among the foremost ranks, reckless and indifferent to danger. Ardent, active and zealous, he has proven himself a most valuable officer on the field of battle. While personally directing a piece of artillery in the fight on Missionary ridge, on the 20th of September, he was severely wounded by a ball that crushed his lower jaw and carried away a part of his tongue. His speedy recovery is, however, now hopefully anticipated.

To my aid-de-camp, Captain W. T. Blakemore, who has served with me in every conflict of this army, as well as at Donelson, and always with honor and ability, I am indebted for much valuable service on the field, and he merits more than I can say for him here.

My brigade inspector, Lieutenant E. R. Smith, of the twenty-fifth Tennessee regiment, and my acting aid-de-camp, Second Lieutenant George Marchbanks, of the Confederate States army, gallantly and faithfully labored with me on the 19th and 20th of September, and I desire to acknowledge my obligations to them for the zeal and intelligence with which they performed their respective duties.



To the medical staff of each brigade of this division I desire to tender my grateful acknowledgments for their faithful and efficient services in taking care of the wounded.

To my efficient ordnance officer, Lieutenant James B. Lake, I feel that a special acknowledgment is due as well for all his faithful services past, as for the prompt supplies which he furnished my whole division from a brigade ordnance train, and yet, at the close of the battle, exhibiting greater abundance of stores on hand than at its commencement.

In conclusion, it will be observed that the severest conflicts in which my command was engaged on the field of Chickamauga, occurred on the evening of the 19th, and in the morning and evening of the 20th September.

On the evening of the 19th, my command suffered as much in three hours as during the whole day of the 20th September.

On Sunday, my command suffered severely until the enemy's breast-works were carried in the morning, and again during the contest for the spur of Missionary ridge, in the evening.

My division commenced to fight in the front line on the 19th of September, and fought in the front line through the conflict of both days, and at the close was far in advance of all support, as it was also at different times during the latter day.

The strength of my command and the number of casualties are hereunto appended. The lists of killed, wounded and missing in Gregg's and Johnson's brigades were forwarded on the 29th of September, but no list has yet been furnished by McNair's brigade, and the aggregates are only given by Colonel Coleman, who commanded this brigade after General McNair was wounded.

I have received no report from Brigadier General E. McNair or Gregg.

Everett's battery fired four hundred and twenty-eight rounds.

Bledsoe's battery fired one hundred and twenty-five rounds.

Culpeper's battery not reported.

Dent's battery not reported, as it belongs to Hindman's division, though it fought with mine from about one, P. M., until sunset 20th September, 1863.

I forward herewith the reports of Lieutenants Everett and Wood, commanding batteries attached respectively to Johnson's and Gregg's brigades, and the reports of Colonels Suggs, Coleman and Fulton, commanding brigades.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,

*Brigadier General.*

*LIST OF THE KILLED, WOUNDED AND MISSING in Johnson's Division.*

| BRIGADES.      | KILLED.   |      | WOUNDED.  |      | MISSING.  |      | AGGREGATE. | REMARKS.                                  |
|----------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. | Officers. | Men. |            |                                           |
| Johnson's..... | 3         | 25   | 28        | 243  | 13        | 85   | 357        | *Aggregates only reported in this brigade |
| Gregg's.....   | 9         | 100  | 39        | 435  | 1         | 17   | 607        |                                           |
| McNair's*..... |           | 51   |           | 336  |           | 64   | 451        |                                           |

*REPORT OF OFFICERS AND MEN taken into action on the 19th and 20th September, 1863.*

| BRIGADES.      | 19th September. |      |            | 20th September. |      |            | REMARKS.                 |
|----------------|-----------------|------|------------|-----------------|------|------------|--------------------------|
|                | Officers.       | Men. | Aggregate. | Officers.       | Men. | Aggregate. |                          |
| Johnson's..... | 108             | 761  | 869        | 61              | 495  | 556        | *Not furnished for 20th. |
| Gregg's.....   | 134             | 1218 | 1352       | 95              | 753  | 848        |                          |
| McNair's*..... | 100             | 1107 | 1207       |                 |      |            |                          |

Aggregate infantry, 3,428.

| ARTILLERY.       | 19th September. |      |            | 20th September. |      |            | REMARKS.                |
|------------------|-----------------|------|------------|-----------------|------|------------|-------------------------|
|                  | Officers.       | Men. | Aggregate. | Officers.       | Men. | Aggregate. |                         |
| Everett's.....   | 3               | 84   | 87         | 3               | 82   | 85         | *Not furnished for 20th |
| Culpeper's*..... | 4               | 80   | 84         |                 |      |            |                         |
| Blodgett's.....  | 3               | 81   | 84         | 4               | 67   | 71         |                         |

Aggregate artillery, 255.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GIST, COMMANDING DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS GIST'S BRIGADE. }  
Near Chuliancoga, Tenn., October 14, 1863. }

Captain J. B. CUMMING,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the participation of the troops under my command in the battle of Chickamauga on Sunday, the 20th of September last:

Being ordered with my brigade—consisting of the fourth Georgia volunteers, Colonel P. H. Colquitt commanding, the twenty-fourth South Carolina volunteers, Colonel C. H. Stevens commanding, the sixth South Carolina volunteers, Colonel James McCullough commanding, the eighth Georgia battalion of volunteers, Lieut. Col. L. Napier commanding, and Ferguson's light battery, Lieutenant Beauregard commanding—to Rome, Georgia, upon detached service, I did not engage in the affairs of the 18th and 19th of September, with the other troops of the reserve corps of Major General W. H. T. Walker. On the afternoon of Thursday, the 17th of September, I received orders from the Colonel commanding to report, with my brigade, at Ringgold, Georgia, and was further informed that transportation by rail would be afforded me. I left Rome the next morning, upon the arrival of the trains, with the twenty-fourth South Carolina volunteers, eighth Georgia battalion, three companies of the fourth Georgia volunteers and Ferguson's battery, there not being cars sufficient for the remainder of the command. Upon reaching Kingston, I urged the transportation agent to send forward additional cars for that portion of the brigade still at Rome, and he assured me that he would do so promptly. I subsequently telegraphed him from Ringgold to hasten on the rest of the command. The result was that the sixteenth South Carolina volunteers and my battery did not join me until the morning of the 23d of September, three days after the battle. Upon arriving at the terminus of the railroad, Catoosa, (wood station,) on the morning of the 19th, I rode forward to Ringgold for orders and to obtain wagons for my reserve ammunition, my own train being left with the division upon my departure for Rome. In a few hours I received orders from the General commanding to guard and convoy to the army a large ordnance train that would be formed and reported to me. This train was not reported until near ten o'clock, P. M. With the train in charge, having procured a reliable guide in the person of Dr. Evans, of Ringgold, I reached Alexander's bridge, at which point I was directed to cross Chickamauga creek, if possible, about sunrise upon the morning of the 20th, after a most fatiguing march during the entire night. I reported my arrival with the train to army headquarters, and, being relieved of further charge of it, was directed to march forward to a point about a mile distant from the bridge and

there await further orders. After remaining at this position some twenty minutes, I was ordered, by a staff officer of the General commanding, to move forward, reporting to Lieutenant General Polk, and join Major General Walker's corps, being at the same time placed under the guidance of a staff officer of General Polk; he turned over the direction of my command to a second officer of the same staff, and he to a third officer. With considerable difficulty, and after marching for some time, I reached the division to which I was attached. Upon reporting my command, at this time numbering only nine hundred and eighty, aggregate, I was ordered by Major General Walker to at once assume command of the division, consisting of Brigadier General Ector's, Colonel Wilson's and my own brigades—the brigades of Ector and Wilson numbering about five hundred each, having suffered heavy losses in the engagement on the previous day. Lieutenant General D. H. Hill was present when I reported to Generals Polk and Walker, and, as I was turning off to assume command of the division, requested Major General Walker to send a brigade to the support of Major General Breckinridge's division that was hotly engaged in our front and upon our left. Major General Walker indicated one of General Liddell's brigades near by. General Hill asked for Gist's brigade, saying he had heard of that brigade. Gen. Walker remarked that Gist's brigade is just coming up, and directed me to report to General Hill. I did so; the brigade being now under command of Colonel P. H. Colquitt, of the fourth Georgia volunteers, he at once reported and received his instructions from General Hill. General Walker then directed me to report the other two brigades also to General Hill, which was promptly done. Colonel Colquitt, having his instructions from General Hill, advanced his command in the direction indicated, being cautioned that he was to support General Breckinridge, two of whose brigades were reported in his immediate front. I was afterwards directed by General Hill to follow up and support the advance of the first brigade with the brigades of Ector and Wilson. Colonel Colquitt, upon advancing a few hundred yards in the wood before him, found himself in the presence of the enemy, strongly posted and massed behind a breastwork of logs, the troops reported in his front having retired before the galling fire of the enemy. The direction taken by Colquitt was also too far to the right, and the left regiment (twenty-fourth South Carolina volunteers) only came directly upon the enemy's lines, which were so disposed by a salient as to rake the entire front of the brigade as it came forward with a severe and destructive enfilading fire. The brigade could not have changed direction, as the position of the enemy was not discovered by Colonel Colquitt until the left was within a short distance of the breastworks; the right, however, changed front sufficiently to become directly engaged. Colonel Colquitt did not reconnoitre the position, as he was instructed that our troops were in his front. The enemy now poured forth a most destructive and well-aimed fire upon the entire line, and though it wavered and recoiled under the shock, yet by the exertions of the gallant Colquitt, nobly seconded by Colonels Stevens, Capers and other brave and true officers, order was

promptly restored, and for some twenty-five minutes the terrific fire was withstood and returned with marked effect by the gallant little band.

It was here that the lamented Colquitt was mortally wounded whilst cheering on his command; and, in quick succession, the iron-nerved Stevens and the intrepid Capers were seriously wounded and, among others who deserve to live in their country's memory, yielded up their life blood. One-third of the gallant command was either killed or wounded. Reeling under the storm of bullets, having lost all but two of their field officers, the brigade fell back, fighting, to the position from which they advanced. The brigade of Ector and Wilson kept up their fire from the ———. The enemy did not venture beyond their works, so severely had they suffered, until I was directed by General Hill to withdraw my men to the position they occupied before advancing, and reform my whole line in rear of the batteries, some few hundred yards distant from the enemy's position. This order was gallantly extended, under a heavy fire, by Captain M. P. King, my assistant adjutant general. Our lines being re-established, we remained in position until about four o'clock, P. M., when a general advance was ordered.

Major A. M. Speer, with seven companies of the fourth Georgia volunteers, having come up, my own brigade, now under command of Lieutenant Colonel Napier, was increased to some one thousand four hundred men and officers. I was directed by Major General Walker to support the advance of General Liddell's division. Upon reaching the Chattanooga road, General Liddell found his command exposed to a heavy fire upon both flanks and fell back to my rear. The gallant fourth Georgia, occupying the right of the brigade, eager to avenge their beloved colonel, the brave Captain Cooper and other true officers of the regiment, with a loud cheer, led by their brave major, charged through the woods before them, driving the enemy and capturing some forty prisoners. The remainder of the brigade followed up handsomely the advance upon the left. Upon reaching the Chattanooga road, the force of the enemy that engaged and fired upon the flanks of General Liddell's division had retired from view; and, not being aware of any support upon my right, I at once halted the command, threw out skirmishers to my front and upon my right flank, and sent information of my position to Major General Walker. The brigades of General Ector and Colonel Wilson advancing, took up position to the left of the first brigade without encountering any serious opposition. Not receiving any further orders, and night being nearly upon us, we bivouacked upon the field of victory. General Liddell, whose command was promptly reformed, came up and took position on my right. The firing ceased; loud cheers went up to Heaven, and the grandest, most important battle of the war was fought and won.

I would respectfully refer the Major General commanding to the reports of Brigadier General Ector and Colonel Wilson for particulars in relation to their respective commands, and acknowledge my indebtedness to them for judicious and efficient support. To Major B. B. Smith, inspector, Captain M. P. King, assistant adjutant general,



Lieutenants L. M. Butler and J. C. Habersham, aids-de-camp, of my staff, I am under great obligations for valuable assistance in reforming commands, extending orders under heavy fires and other efficient service. Major J. S. Green, brigade quartermaster, Captain J. A. Bowil, acting brigade commissary, and Lieutenant J. M. Hunt, acting brigade ordnance officer, were at their post and in efficient discharge of their respective duties. I would recommend to the favorable notice of the General commanding the distinguished gallantry of Colonel C. H. Stevens, twenty-fourth South Carolina volunteers, who, besides being severely wounded, had two horses killed under him.

I have the honor to enclose a report of the officers and men from my own brigade, represented by their commanding officers as having conducted themselves meritoriously upon the field of battle.

I cannot close my report without expressing my satisfaction at the conduct and efficiency of the officers, and my admiration for the brave and soldierly bearing of the men of the division which I had the honor to command in the battle of Chickamauga. Their rolls of killed and wounded testify to the place which they occupied in the picture.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. GIST,

*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL E. C. WALTHALL.

HEADQUARTERS WALTHALL'S BRIGADE, }  
Near Chattanooga, Oct. 6, 1863. }

Captain G. A. WILLIAMS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the battle of Chickamauga, in what concerns my own command:

On Friday, 18th September, about ten o'clock, P. M., when the head of Major General Walker's column reached a point about a half mile from Alexander's bridge, I was ordered by Brigadier General Laddell, commanding division, to form line of battle, with the left of my brigade resting on the road leading to the bridge, and to move forward, guiding left, and keeping the road to my left. The line was formed almost at right angles to the road, the right slightly retired, and skirmishers, covering my entire front, were thrown forward about two hundred yards.

These dispositions made, I moved forward through a dense thicket, and, after advancing about a quarter of a mile, the enemy's skirmishers were encountered in front of my left and centre, the two regiments on the right, twenty-fourth Mississippi regiment (Lieutenant Colonel McKelvane) and twenty-seventh Mississippi regiment, (Colonel Campbell,) meeting no opposition, except in front of the two companies on the left of the twenty-seventh regiment. The road on which my left rested in the beginning of the movement turns to the right at a point two or three hundred yards from the bridge, forming a right angle. At this point the thirty-fourth Mississippi regiment, Major Pegram commanding, and thirtieth Mississippi regiment, Colonel Scales commanding, in advancing passed across the road into an open field, and the twenty-ninth Mississippi regiment, Colonel Brantley, the centre regiment of my command, being immediately opposite the bridge, was stubbornly resisted for about fifteen minutes; and, in the meantime, the regiments to the left of this driving the skirmishers of the enemy before them, swung round under the enemy's artillery fire, through an open field, until the line they formed was nearly at right angles to that formed by the other three regiments, conforming in the main to the general direction of the creek. When the bridge was gained by the twenty-ninth Mississippi regiment, it was done under a heavy fire from the enemy posted on the opposite bank of the creek, which along my line was narrow, but deep, with steep banks and impassable. The bridge had been torn up by the enemy, but this fact, owing to the density of the undergrowth, could not be ascertained until the bank of the creek was occupied. The thirty-fourth and thirtieth Mississippi regiments, after swinging to the right as above mentioned in the field, had been halted by their commanders and the men ordered to lie down, the enemy having disappeared in their front. I then directed the skirmishers of these regiments, which I had pre-



viously ordered to be pressed forward, to be recalled, and the regiments to move by the right flank until they closed up an interval between the thirtieth and twenty-ninth near the angle in the line. Fowler's battery, of my brigade, during the engagement, was put in position by the Brigadier General commanding on an eminence to the left of my line to operate on a battery of the enemy which had been shelling my line, but the enemy withdrew his pieces while Captain Fowler was getting in position, and, in the meantime, the bridge was taken. In this action the twenty-ninth Mississippi lost heavily, and in the thirty-fourth an officer and twenty-four enlisted men were wounded. The twenty-fourth sustained no loss, and twenty-seventh and thirtieth but slight. When the condition of the bridge was reported to Major General Walker, he directed me to move my command by the right flank, under the direction of a guide furnished me, towards Byron's ford, about one mile below Alexander's bridge, where my command, followed by the rest of Major General Walker's corps, crossed, without opposition, and moved about a mile towards Lee & Gordon's mill, on the Vinyard road. Night, in the meantime, coming on, I halted, under orders from the Brigadier General commanding, and the next morning, soon after daylight, I moved out, left in front, following Colonel Govan's brigade. The column had not moved more than three-quarters of a mile when it was halted and rested on the road side until about eleven o'clock, when I received orders from the Brigadier General commanding to advance in line of battle. After moving forward two or three hundred yards, he directed me to move by the right flank, and, when my right was nearly opposite an old shop near the road, to halt, and front, and advance in line of battle. Just here a staff officer from Major General Walker came to me with orders to move rapidly forward, as Ector's and Wilson's brigades were badly cut up and largely outnumbered by the enemy. Soon the General came in person, and, meeting me with my command, gave me instructions as to directions, localities, &c. With Colonel Govan's brigade on my left, I moved rapidly forward and encountered the enemy (before I had advanced five hundred yards) in strong force. The firing indicated that the two brigades had met the enemy along the whole line of both at the same time. After moving forward a hundred yards or so my line was checked for a moment by a heavy artillery and musketry fire, but, when ordered to advance, the whole line moved promptly forward with a shout, breaking the first, and then the second line of the enemy, passing over two full batteries and capturing four hundred and eleven prisoners, of whom twenty-three were commissioned officers. The prisoners, in the main, claimed to be from the first, second, third, fourth and sixteenth United States infantry, and from company H, fifth artillery, and one first lieutenant from fourth Indiana battery. A large proportion of the artillery horses attached to the batteries, over which we passed, having been either killed or wounded, it was impossible, at the time, to retire the pieces as they were gained. Lieutenant Colonel Reynolds, field officer of the day, with a detail from the thirty-fourth Mississippi regiment, removed

one Parrott gun to the rear, which was delivered to Major Palmer, chief of artillery on Major General Walker's staff.

After passing beyond the second line of the enemy I ascertained that he was turning my right flank, and, while making a disposition of my right regiment in the effort to prevent it, Lieutenant Colonel Reynolds, who had been sent to the left of the line to observe the operations there, reported to me that the enemy were already upon the flank of my left regiment. Moving towards the left I discovered a piece of artillery being put in position opposite and within three hundred yards of the left of my line, which was already turned. I withdrew my command at once, the engagement having lasted about one hour. The enemy did not pursue, and I took my position, under orders from the Brigadier General commanding, to the right of the position from which Major General Cheatham's command just then advanced.

In this engagement my command suffered heavily. Lieutenant Colonel McKelvane, commanding twenty-fourth Mississippi regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Morgan, of the twenty-ninth Mississippi regiment, were severely wounded. Lieutenant Colonel McKelvane remained in command of his regiment (after he was wounded) till the engagement was over. In the course of two hours from this time, several immaterial changes having in the meantime been made in my position, Lieutenant General Polk directed me to move by the right flank, in extension of Major General Cheatham's line, taking my position on the right of Brigadier General Jackson. This was done under the enemy's fire, whose purpose seemed to be to turn General Cheatham's right flank. Colonel Govan's brigade took position on my right, whereupon the Brigadier General commanding ordered his line to advance. My command moved forward some three or four hundred yards, the enemy contesting the ground, but falling back until the crest of a ridge in front of me had been gained. Here the enemy, strongly posted, delivered a very heavy fire of artillery and small arms; the advance was checked, and in the course of ten or fifteen minutes my line was forced to retire to its original position on Brigadier General Jackson's right, and I was directed by the Brigadier General commanding to remain there until further orders. Four guns of Fowler's battery were posted, during this last movement, in rear of Liddell's division, and opened fire on a battery of the enemy which was shelling the troops on the left, and silenced it in a few minutes. One section under Lieutenant Phelan, in an attempt to follow my brigade when it moved to General Cheatham's right passed, by reason of another command being mistaken for mine, beyond the right of my line, and was put in position at a point where the infantry supporting it was forced to fall back before a superior force of the enemy, after a short engagement. All the horses of one piece were killed, and all but one of the other either killed or wounded. One piece was lost, but afterwards recaptured; the other was brought off. The loss in killed and wounded in this section was heavy, and the pieces used with great effect.

In the engagement on Saturday afternoon Major Pegram, com-



*W. J. Pomeroy*



manding the thirty-fourth Mississippi regiment, and Major Staples, commanding the twenty-fourth Mississippi regiment, were severely wounded, and Captain Smith, the senior Captain of the latter, having been slightly wounded, the command of that regiment devolved on Captain Toomer till the next morning, when Captain Smith reported for duty and assumed command. The command of the thirty-fourth regiment devolved on Captain Bowen after Major Pegram was wounded. When Captain Fowler reported that one of the pieces under Lieutenant Phelan had been lost on my right, the line in the meantime having fallen back, and the firing having ceased, the twenty-fourth Mississippi regiment, under command of Captain Toomer, was sent to the right, under the supervision of Lieutenant Colonel Reynolds, field officer of the day, to a point opposite where the gun was said by Lieutenant Phelan to have been taken by the enemy, and moved forward, driving back the enemy's skirmishers till it was ascertained that the enemy, who had retired from the position he occupied when the gun was taken, had removed the gun before falling back. The regiment was then ordered back to its proper position in line.

At an early hour on Sunday morning my command was moved by the left flank, by order of the Brigadier General commanding, to the rear of Major General Cheatham's line and then back, past the position where it had spent the night, to the right, a distance of about a mile and a half in rear of where Major General Breckenridge's forces were engaged, and halted about three-quarters of a mile from the Chattanooga road. About twelve o'clock, and after one or two unimportant changes of position, Lieutenant General Polk directed me to move to the left, to a point to be indicated by Major Ratchford, of Lieutenant General Hill's staff, to the support of Brigadier General Polk. I moved by the left flank to the point indicated by Major Ratchford, who accompanied me, and advanced my line under a heavy fire from the enemy, which commenced before I got into position. I pressed forward two or three hundred yards under this fire through dense undergrowth, until the enemy opened fire on my left flank from the angle of his fortifications just opposite. About the same time an impression—afterwards shown to be unfounded—was produced by stragglers, and among them one officer, falling back from some line to the right of my immediate front, that the right of my line had fired into our own friends; so dense was the thicket that it was impossible to ascertain at the moment the exact position of any line, nor was I able to find Brigadier General Polk's command. My left having been driven back, I ordered the right to cease firing and retired it, and reformed my line under cover of the hill, and reported the fact to Lieutenant General Hill, who directed me to hold the position which I occupied, guarding well my left; my right and centre being then covered by another command, which had fallen back, and was reforming very near me. Lieutenant Colonel Reynolds, of the thirtieth Mississippi regiment, who but a short time before I had assigned to the command of the thirty-fourth Mississippi regiment, fell, mortally wounded, at his post of duty, just before the left of my line gave way under a flank fire, as above stated, and died soon afterwards. No braver man or better soldier fell upon the field of Chickamauga than

the faithful and accomplished officer, whose loss is deeply deplored throughout the command. In his death the service sustains a heavy loss. Major Johnson, of the thirtieth Mississippi regiment, was wounded about the same time, but, his wound being slight, he did not quit the field.

In a short time after my line was reformed, I was ordered by the Brigadier General commanding to move my command by the right flank some four hundred yards and forward about half that distance, and await orders. The right of my brigade rested in a field, near a fence, and the centre and left in the woods, just in rear of a little prairie. In this position, with my battery posted near the centre of my line, and Govan's brigade on my left, I remained until about five o'clock, when I received orders from the Brigadier General commanding that the line would advance and to move my command forward, guiding left. I put it in motion, my brigade being then on the extreme right of the line, and met no opposition even from the enemy's skirmishers until I was in sight of the Chattanooga road, near McDonald's house. Here the skirmishers, firing from behind the house and the out-houses of the settlement, resisted my advance for a moment, but soon most of them fled, a few surrendering. I moved across the road and into the open field beyond, and was ordered by the Brigadier General commanding to halt about two hundred yards from the road and let the men lie down till he could put the batteries of his division on my right, and to this he gave his personal attention. While my line was advancing unopposed, a continuous fire was heard to my left, and most of it seemed to be on the left of Govan's brigade, and as the division advanced this firing was continued to its left and rear. In the field in which my line was halted, Govan's brigade also halted, in extension of my line. Skirmishers were kept two or three hundred yards in front. The order to lie down had scarcely been given and executed, when the whole line was enfiladed from three batteries—one on the hill in the neighborhood of Cloud's house; another within three hundred yards of the right of my line, concealed in a clump of bushes, (both these on the right;) and one to the left of Govan, near the Chattanooga road. Some of our pieces were turned upon the batteries to the right and used to the best advantage under the circumstances, but neither was silenced. After enduring a very heavy fire for ten or fifteen minutes from these three batteries, with no enemy to be seen in front, the brigade to my left gave way, and my own soon followed, falling back in confusion under a furious cannonade. The enemy, from the woods to the right, soon appeared and occupied the road in time to cut off and capture most of the skirmishers, with several of their officers, who covered my front in the field. Colonel J. J. Seales, commanding thirtieth Mississippi regiment, was captured here, and Lieutenant Colonel Jones, twenty-seventh Mississippi regiment, then acting as field officer of the day, was wounded. He, however, returned to duty next morning. With the three remaining field officers (and one of them slightly wounded, but still on duty) out of the ten with whom I had gone into action Saturday morning, my broken line was promptly reformed and moved forward. The enemy had withdrawn



before I again reached the Chattanooga road, and I was ordered by the Brigadier General commanding, soon after, to take position in a field to the right of Govan's brigade, which was posted near McDonald's house and east of the Chattanooga road, and to construct such temporary protections for the men as could be made of rails, etc., in front of my lines. Just after I got into the field with my command, I was directed by the Brigadier General commanding to move it back into the woods, in rear of Colonel Govan. Two shells, to which the enemy replied from a battery in front, having been thrown directly over my line from some battery in my rear, the first one exploding just over the twenty-fourth Mississippi regiment and severely wounding a man of that command.

The next day the whole corps moved toward Chattanooga by the main road, it having been ascertained that the enemy had retired during the night. In this battle out of ten field officers, one hundred and thirty-four company officers and sixteen hundred and eighty-three enlisted men, which I carried in, I lost seven hundred and five, of whom sixty-nine were killed and twelve have since died from their wounds. A full report of casualties is herewith submitted.

To all of my regimental commanders, and to Captain Fowler, of Fowler's battery, I am indebted for their cordial support, and a gallant, faithful and skillful discharge of duty at all times during the battle, as I am to the officers and men of their commands, for the coolness, daring and persistence (except in a very few instances) which marked their action throughout all the engagements. For individual instances of gallantry, etc., for a more perfect understanding of details, I respectfully refer to the reports of regimental and battery commanders, herewith submitted. To the several members of my staff my thanks are due for the valuable aid I received at their hands, by means of their prompt attention to all their duties, and their gallant bearing under all circumstances.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. C. WALTHALL,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL A. M. MANIGAULT.

HEADQUARTERS MANIGAULT'S BRIGADE, HINDMAN'S DIVISION, }  
Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee, }  
Missionary Ridge, Tenn., October 8, 1863. }

Major J. P. WILSON,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit this, my report of the part taken by this brigade in the late battle of Chickamauga and on the two days preceding it:

On the morning of the 18th September, (having left our encampment near Lafayette the previous evening,) when about a mile and a half from Lee & Gordon's mill, on Chickamauga creek—the enemy opening upon our column whilst on the march, from a battery on the opposite side—we were ordered to form a line of battle fronting the enemy's position, which threw my command, the right resting on the road, obliquely across an open field, our front being covered by skirmishers deployed from each regiment under the command of Major Butler, of the twenty-eighth Alabama regiment. Here the men were ordered to lie down, in order to avoid the fire of the enemy's artillery, which had begun to open upon our lines, causing a loss of six men in the tenth and nineteenth South Carolina regiments. This position was afterwards changed, in order to bring our right nearer to General Deas' left, whose brigade extended beyond me to the right. Bivouacking near the road that night, we again occupied a position near the same place, but with the lines advanced and the left thrown forward some three or four hundred yards on the following morning, the enemy's artillery occasionally throwing a few shot in our neighborhood, but without effect. Our skirmishers kept up a steady fire with those of the enemy opposing them, suffering a small loss on their own part.

In the afternoon of this day (September 19th, we received orders, through the division commander, to move with the division to join the main body of the army, a portion of which had become engaged, the battle having commenced. Moving by the right flank, and following the brigade of General Deas, we crossed the Chickamauga at Hunt's ford, wading to the west bank. Continuing to move on for a distance of about two miles, we arrived upon the ground in the neighborhood of which Hood's division had been engaged during the afternoon. It was understood that we were to support this division. The brigade was then formed in line, with that of General Deas upon the right, and Anderson's as a support, a few hundred yards in rear—our line facing directly west. It was now after sunset, when the order to move forward was received, and we advanced, dressing to the right, some four or five hundred yards, moving forward slowly and with difficulty, owing to the dense growth through which we had to pass. Skirmishers were thrown to the front, the line having been halted.

The skirmishers and the left companies of the thirty-fourth Alabama regiment, on the extreme left of the brigade, a short time after night-fall (twice) became engaged with a force of the enemy, believed to be a reconnoitering party, in which that regiment lost some twelve or thirteen men killed and wounded, but in each instance inflicting a severe loss upon the enemy and driving them back. Falling back from the above position, by order of the division commander, about nine o'clock that night we rejoined the line of battle, a portion of the brigade filling the space between the left of Hood's division and the right of Major General Buckner's corps.

On the morning of the 20th of September, (Sunday,) at an early hour, our final line of battle was complete—the brigade being in the front line, General Deas, with his brigade, being on my right, and my left resting on Colonel Trigg's brigade, of Preston's division, Buckner's corps. My instructions were to move forward when the brigade to my right moved—the attack commencing on the right of the army—the movement being taken up successively by each division and brigade towards the left, and I was also informed that the troops on my left would move forward in like manner. At about half-past eleven, A. M., (the action having commenced on the right at about ten o'clock,) General Deas' brigade began its forward movement, and my own was given the order to advance. The guide being to the right, in order to preserve a continuous line (as much as possible) with that portion of the division on the right, the men were obliged to move forward at a very rapid pace. Skirmishers, covering the entire front, preceded our advance at a distance of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty yards. The brigade moved steadily on for a distance of some six or seven hundred yards before meeting with any opposition, when we found the enemy in our front, posted near the crest of a hill, a gradual ascent leading to it; and behind breastworks of logs and timber their infantry lay, opening upon the command a heavy fire at short range from their positions of fancied security. At this point the tenth and nineteenth South Carolina regiments were partially in a wood; the twenty-fourth Alabama regiment was exposed in an open field in the front of them, and in the centre of which was planted a Federal battery; several pieces of artillery also being in the wood on our right. Water's battery, which had followed in rear of the brigade, occupied our centre, the twenty-eighth Alabama regiment on the left of it, its right being on the west edge of the same field and extending into a wood beyond, and the thirty-fourth Alabama regiment to the left of this wood, also in an open field, with thick woods in their front. The entire line now became hotly engaged, the tenth and nineteenth South Carolina and the twenty-fourth Alabama regiments advancing to within eighty yards of the enemy's breastworks, receiving and giving a heavy fire. Here they were checked and, from the severity of the fire, thrown into some confusion, not so much from the fire in their front as from a heavy enfilade fire from the enemy on their left, which caused a heavy loss, but they almost immediately advanced again and drove the enemy from his works, capturing many prisoners and three pieces of artillery. The twenty-eighth and thirty-fourth

Alabama regiments moved steadily forward, also receiving a heavy fire, and drove the enemy from the works in their front. Finding myself at this time on the extreme left of the army, the forces on my left, which, when in line of battle, I had been told would advance simultaneously with me, had not done so, (the information which I had received being, I suppose, incorrect,) and that my left flank was overlapped, as far as could be seen, by several regiments of the enemy's infantry, and not knowing how heavy the enemy's force was in this direction—my three right regiments being thrown in much confusion, and a large force of the enemy advancing through the field on my centre to recover their lost ground and three pieces of artillery which had been captured by the nineteenth South Carolina, which, however, the enemy did not succeed in doing—I ordered the brigade to fall back about three hundred yards, across the Chattanooga and Lafayette road. In this movement the two left regiments, the twenty-eighth and thirty-fourth Alabama, fell back with an unbroken front. In retiring the battery, the pole of the limber of a piece having been broken, the piece was for a time abandoned. However, Colonel Reid, commanding twenty-eighth Alabama regiment, moved his regiment forward, deploying two companies as skirmishers, and succeeded in recovering it.

Just after having given the order for the retirement of the brigade, General Anderson's command of Mississippians, the reserve of the division, came gallantly forward and swept by me, his left regiment covering some four or five companies of my right regiment. The tenth South Carolina, Colonel Pressley commanding, the sixteenth and nineteenth South Carolina, with several companies, there joined him, and continued to move forward. Previous to the advance of General Anderson, I had sent to General Buckner to request that the brigade which had been on my left whilst in line (Trigg's brigade) should be sent forward to my support. They soon made their appearance, but the enemy had fallen back, owing to the advance of Generals Deas and Anderson, and others on my right; they apprehending, in all probability, that they themselves would be cut off, seeing also that reinforcements were coming to my assistance.

The line having been reformed, the brigade was then moved forward and was placed, by order of General Hindman, on the right of General Deas' brigade, then occupying a portion of a ridge west of the road known as the Rossville road. Here we remained but a short time, when orders were received from the same source to report to General Rushrod Johnson, whose command was then heavily pressed, on a succession of ridges which lay east of our present position, about a half a mile to our right, and to the east of the Rossville road. The command was immediately moved and formed on the summit of one of the ridges before alluded to, the line being at right angles with that occupied in the morning and running east and west. My right covered the battery of Captain Dent, which we found, to move to the support of General Johnson, already in position; the centre rested in a gorge between the ridge on which the battery stood and the left, which crowned a second ridge; having the brigade of General Deas on

the left, the right of his brigade, however, covering six companies of the thirty-fourth Alabama regiment. Skirmishers having been thrown forward, immediately developed the enemy not more than one hundred and fifty or two hundred yards in our front, with a battery in position.

About half past three o'clock, having received orders from General Bushrod Johnson, under whose supervision the movement was to be made, to swing my line round, making a right half wheel, which wheel was to be continued if practicable, in order to envelope the enemy in our front and drive him back upon the centre of our lines, General Deas on my left to commence the movement, and each successive brigade to conform to the wheel, keeping the touch of the right and dressing to the left, the troops were set in motion and here commenced one of the most desperate contests of the day. The movement was scarce begun ere the entire line became engaged, and a deadly fire of musketry and canister was opened upon it at short range. The line for a short time was thrown in much confusion, but was quickly rallied and again advanced; again and again were they driven back, but as promptly rallied and moved forward again, at each advance driving the enemy still further from their original position. Nothing but the determined valor of our soldiers could have withstood the withering volleys poured into them by the enemy, who at this point certainly fought with great obstinacy.

The field and company officers were, as a general rule, conspicuous for their good conduct, urging and cheering on the men, and themselves setting an example to which their men nobly responded. After a contest of nearly three hours, victory crowned their efforts, and the foe were baffled and beaten and many taken prisoners. Owing to the exposed position of the thirty-fourth Alabama regiment, and to the fact that a large number of the enemy still remained on our left, this regiment could never get ahead, and was, together with a large number of men from the other regiments of the brigade, held in hand to prevent any demonstration of the enemy on our flank.

It was after sunset when the firing ceased, and night ended the contest. The men, completely exhausted by their long continued efforts, had the proud satisfaction of knowing that they had been victorious in every part of the field, and that their efforts had contributed no small share to the earning of this great victory.

I would respectfully refer you to the lists of killed and wounded already handed in. We have to deplore the loss of many brave officers and men who fell in that bloody field. The loss of no one will be felt more keenly than that of Captain P. B. Heger, assistant inspector general of my staff, who fell about a half hour before sunset, pierced through the heart by a rifle ball, and expired immediately. Earnest and zealous in the discharge of his duty, he had no selfish regard and labored in that capacity by his gentle, ready manners, his impartial and consistent discharge of the duties of his department, and by his great energy, coolness and judgment in action. The twenty-fourth Alabama also lost one of its most efficient officers, Captain O'Brien, a gentleman of accomplished mind, a brave and gallant officer. Captain Chubbeylin and Lieutenant Cooper, of some regiment,

were severely wounded, and their valuable services will be for a long period lost to their country.

The following named officers were distinguished for their conduct on the field, and I take pleasure in bringing them to your attention in this report: Lieutenant Colonel Julius S. Poreher, tenth South Carolina volunteers; Major J. L. White, nineteenth South Carolina volunteers, and Adjutant Fenell, of same regiment.

Of twenty-fourth Alabama regiment, Captains Hazard, Oliver, McCracken, Fowler and Hall, Lieutenants Higley, Chapman, Pacham, Dunlap, Young, Euholm, Hood, Hanley, Northrup, Short, Adjutant Jennison, Sergeant-major Minck, and Color-sergeant Moody behaved with great gallantry.

Lieutenant Jordan, of twenty-eighth Alabama, conducted himself in a most conspicuous manner, and I regret to say was killed during the action. Of the same regiment, Captains Hopkins and Ford, Lieutenant Graham and Acting Adjutant Wood, throughout the action, were distinguished for their gallant conduct. Captain Roise, A. Q. M., and Commissary Sergeant Craig were efficient in the discharge of their duties in their respective departments. Thirty-fourth Alabama regiment, Lieutenants Mitchel, Lambert, Oliver, Crockett and Bickersstaff behaved in a manner to attract attention.

I cannot close my report without referring specially to the conduct and bearing of Colonel J. C. Reid, commanding, and Major W. L. Butler, twenty-eighth Alabama regiment; Colonel J. F. Pressley, commanding tenth South Carolina; Colonel N. N. Davis, commanding, and Lieutenant Colonel B. Sawyer, twenty-fourth Alabama regiment, and Major Slaughter, commanding thirty-fourth Alabama regiment, and to their individual exertions is to be attributed much of the success which attended our arms on that day. Untiring in their efforts, they set an example to their commands by their personal daring, the effect of which was visible in many instances.

To my staff I am indebted for the most valuable assistance. Captain C. J. Walker, assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant W. E. Huger, aid-de-camp, who fearlessly exposed their persons, carrying and executing orders under the most trying circumstances. Lieutenant Malone, brigade provost marshal, was active in the discharge of his duty, and rendered efficient service in the prevention of straggling, forcing many who were unwilling to face the heavy fire to which they had been exposed back into their proper positions.

I beg leave to call your attention to the report of the regimental commanders, who have more particularly specified the names, rank, &c., of parties conspicuous for their conduct in their respective regiments, on the occasion of the battle of Chickamauga.

I have the honor, Major, to be,

With great respect, your obedient servant,

A. M. MANIGAULT,

*Brigadier General commanding Brigade.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GEENERAL Z. C. DEAS.

HEADQUARTERS DEAS' BRIGADE, HINDMAN'S DIVISION, }  
Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee, }  
Missionary Ridge, before Chattanooga, Oct. 9, 1863. }

Major J. P. WILSON,

*Assistant Adjutant General Hindman's Division :*

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the action of the 19th and 20th September, 1863, on Chickamauga creek :

Late in the afternoon of the 17th September, my brigade, with the division, left Lafayette and bivouacked for the night near Worthon's gap. The next morning we moved forward and formed line of battle on the east side of Chickamauga creek, opposite to Lee & Gordon's mill, where we had skirmishing and artillery firing, off and on, during that and the next day, until the division was relieved by that of General Breckinridge, and ordered to cross the creek at Hunt's ford, about one and a half miles below. Soon after crossing, we came under fire of the enemy's artillery when I received orders to form on the right of Manigault's brigade, with General Anderson supporting, and move forward, which I did promptly, but before I reached the line of the enemy it was dark. All fighting having ceased, I fell back, under orders, a short distance, and bivouacked for the night.

At early daylight, I again moved forward to take my position in line, which was at the time occupied by a portion of a division under Brigadier General Law, which was moving by the right flank to make room for me; but it was seven, or perhaps even as late as eight o'clock, before my entire brigade got into position, with Brig. General Manigault's on my left, and Brigadier General Anderson's in support. Here I received instructions that the fighting would commence on the right and gradually extend towards the left, each brigade attacking as the one on its right became engaged.

A few minutes after ten o'clock, A. M., heavy firing of infantry and artillery on the right, announced that the fight had commenced in earnest. About twenty minutes after eleven the brigade on my right (Gregg's) moved forward and engaged the enemy. I immediately followed, and by the time I had advanced three hundred yards, saw the line of the enemy behind a breastwork of logs, at sight of which my men rushed forward with a yell, and, charging the defences, took them without faltering. As they climbed over, some six or seven hundred of the enemy threw down their arms and hurried through our lines to the rear. These works were at the foot of a gradually sloping hill of considerable height, just beyond the crest of which was posted about twelve pieces of artillery, and in front of them, a little lower down, was another work of the enemy, which was carried by my brave

and gallant men without a moment's faltering. About twelve pieces of artillery were taken here.

By the time I gained the crest of the hill my brigade (which had for some distance been moving at a double-quick, passing in this manner over two works of the enemy,) became somewhat scattered, and were, in consequence, checked for the moment in their onward movement. It was at this period that Brigadier General Anderson's gallant Mississippi brigade came to my assistance, and as my men saw them coming they moved forward again and, in conjunction with this brigade, captured several other pieces of artillery and scattered the enemy in our front so effectually that they never rallied or reformed again during the day on this part of the field. During this charge, my brigade occupied the extreme left of the army, with the exception of Brigadier General Anderson's, which, from being in support, had got on my left. I now halted and reformed my brigade, to be used as emergencies might require; and, learning that Major General Hindman was near by, reported, in person, and received orders to move to the rear and right, and assist the troops then engaged, which proved to be Brigadier General Busbrod Johnson's division. I should here state that my men killed, early in the fight, and bore off the body of Brigadier General Little, United States army.

In moving back to take a new position, Brigadier General Anderson's brigade and mine came together, but soon separated again, he going to the right, and I to the left, to form on the left of Brigadier General Busbrod Johnson; but on taking my position, under instructions from him, I found there was a gap of about six or seven hundred yards. General Manigault, coming up some time after this with his brigade, was ordered by Major General Hindman to fill up this gap. To get into line with these brigades, it was necessary for me to make a right wheel and to form a line at right angles with my last. It was now about four o'clock. My line having been formed, I was ordered by General Johnson to make a right wheel again, or swing to the right, which brought me in collision with the enemy. My brigade at this time being the extreme left of the army, and on the east side of the Rossville road, formed a line facing almost to the left flank of the one I occupied in the morning. Here commenced an attack on the right and rear of Thomas' or Granger's corps, posted on a steep hill, on which was planted artillery. My brigade was at this time without any support whatever. The ascent of this hill was exceedingly difficult, besides being very steep. Here I met with the most obstinate resistance I had encountered during the day, and, after contending with the enemy in this unequal position during an hour and a half, my men in this time having been partially driven back several times, my whole line was finally driven down the hill. After reforming in an adjoining hollow, I again moved forward and found that the attack on the enemy had been so severe that they were not disposed to risk another engagement, and had retired, leaving me in possession of the field.

It was now dark, and I posted my command so as to hold the Rossville road, on which I then was, and then sent forward scouts one



mile to the front, who reported no enemy, but captured about fifty prisoners. Here I bivouacked for the night.

The nature of the ground over which the battle was fought did not admit of the free use of artillery, but Dent's battery, which was attached to my brigade, followed it closely during the morning attack, firing, however, only a few shots; but in the afternoon it rendered signal service, fighting at the time with other commands on my right. The officers deserve special mention for their conduct.

I cannot close this report without testifying my high appreciation of the courage and daring displayed by the officers and men of the brigade which I had the honor to command on this ever memorable field. They here added fresh laurels to those already won on other fields in the sacred cause of their country.

To regimental and battery commanders and their brave men, my thanks are due and most willingly tendered for their very valuable assistance and co-operation in aiding to bring this battle to a successful and decisive issue.

To my staff, I am specially indebted for their willingness and gallantry in carrying out my orders on the field: Captain E. F. Travis, assistant adjutant general; Captain Douglas Wirt, acting assistant inspector general; Lieutenant F. G. Lyon, aid-de camp; Captain R. H. Williams, volunteer aid-de-camp; Lieutenant C. J. Michaloffky, provost marshal, and to Senior Surgeon V. B. Gilbert; Major R. J. Hill, assistant quartermaster; Major H. A. Deas, assistant commissary of subsistence, and Lieutenant T. B. Dallas, ordnance officer, for the zeal and efficiency with which they discharged the duties of their several respective departments.

In going into the fight on the 20th, the brigade numbered one hundred and fifty-seven officers, and seventeen hundred and eighty-five enlisted men, of whom one hundred and twenty-five were killed, five hundred and ninety-two wounded, and twenty-eight missing; total, seven hundred and forty-five. Among the killed I much regret to record the name of Lieutenant Colonel John Weeden, commanding twenty-second Alabama regiment, who fell, early on Sunday morning, while most gallantly leading and cheering on his brave regiment. A few minutes before him, fell the ranking captain of this regiment, I. D. Nett, than whom no braver or better officer ever poured out his life's blood in his country's cause. He died where the brave and good should die, in the front rank, leading his men on to victory. Two horses whose lives were sacrificed to fanaticism. Maj B R Hart, of the same regiment, was severely wounded in the same charge.

I have omitted to state that, on Sunday afternoon I passed over some ten or a dozen ordnance wagons, filled with ordnance stores, three or four pieces of artillery and caissons, many ambulances, and one or two supply wagons, and a dozen or more mules and horses. There had evidently been a stampede here, and these were the fruits left for us.

Before closing, I wish to mention the fact, that the fifteenth Alabama regiment, Colonel Oates, was with my brigade a portion of the time during the first attack Sunday morning, and afterwards left me

to go to the assistance of General Johnson in the fight of the afternoon. It is simple justice to say that, what I saw of this regiment, it was behaving with great gallantry.

I am, Major, very respectfully your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,

*Brigadier General commanding.*

The following statement probably appertains more to the division than to the brigade report of this battle, and is therefore reserved for the postscript:

According to the strong testamentary evidence of the occasion, and that also of very many prisoners, this brigade, very materially and opportunely assisted by Anderson's, attacked, on Sunday morning Sheridan's division, of McCook's corps; and by the impetuosity of their attack so thoroughly cut off Davis' division, of the same corps, that they never again assisted in the fight on that day, and, from the best information I can gather, fell back to Chattanooga by the western road to Ross-ville. The names of divisions above cited are taken from the statements of prisoners.

This postscript is meant more for information than as a portion of my report.

I am Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,

*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PATTON ANDERSON.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S BRIGADE, HINDMAN'S DIVISION, }  
Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee, }  
Missionary Ridge, near Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 6, 1863. }

Major J. P. WILSON,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Hindman's Division :*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this command in the late battle of Chickamauga:

On the evening of the 19th of September, at about five o'clock, P. M., Major General Hindman assumed command of the division on the west bank of the Chickamauga, not long after we had crossed to that side, and while the division was being put in position for the impending battle. I resumed the command of my brigade, which had been relinquished on the 17th, at Lafayette, Georgia, for the purpose of relieving Major General Hindman, who was too unwell to exercise the command of his division. On taking command of my brigade, I took position in line from two to three hundred yards in rear of Deas' left, and Manigault's right, as the reserve brigade of Hindman's division. We bivouacked on the field for the night, and received orders to take up and continue the attack ordered to be made on the right at daylight on the morning of the 20th of September. The attack on our right was not made, however, until between ten and eleven o'clock on the morning of the 20th, when it was promptly taken up by Deas and Manigault in my front, and the whole division moved confidently on the enemy's first line. Deas swept everything before him, without halting, or even checking up, in his advance to and over the enemy's first line of breastworks. Manigault was checked, and diverged to the left, unmasking my two left regiments. The whole brigade was moved steadily forward, gradually closing the space between it and Deas' line, until the ascent of a range of wooded hills was reached, where the enemy, by reason of his advantageous position for both infantry and artillery, had brought Deas momentarily to a stand. Three pieces of his artillery, strongly posted about two-thirds of the way up the hill and supported by infantry, were causing Deas' left regiment to waver, when I ordered an advance. The command was most gallantly responded to, the artillery captured, the heights carried, and the enemy so badly routed as to be unable to make any real stand again upon that part of the field. I continued in pursuit, however, for half a mile or more, when, finding my lines imperfect by reason of some being able to follow faster than others, I rode to those in advance and soon succeeded in halting them until the line could be perfected. Here Colonel Coltart, of Deas' brigade, with a portion of his (fiftieth Alabama) regiment, and another colonel, of some other command, whose name I have forgotten, with a few men, reported to me, having lost their proper commands. Before the new alignment had been completed, a staff officer from General Hindman recalled me from

further pursuit, on account of a flank fire which had been opened by the enemy, with artillery and small arms, on my rear and left regiments—the forty first and ninth Mississippi, Colonel Tucker and Major Lynam commanding, respectively.

After reforming, the command was marched back, by General Hindman's order, in the direction from which it had advanced, a distance of about a half or three-quarters of a mile, then changed direction to the right over an open field, towards a position where Kershaw was reported to be heavily pressed.

My brigade reached this position about three in the afternoon and was ordered to form line on Kershaw's left, to support him in an attack upon a wooded hill in his front, where the enemy was strongly posted. In taking position it was found that the command of Brigadier General Bushrod Johnston was in line on the extreme left, with not sufficient interval between his right and Kershaw's left for my whole command. The interval, however, was filled, and the over-plus held in reserve. The attack was soon made by the whole line. It was stubbornly resisted from a very strong position just behind the crest of the hill. A portion of two of my regiments gained the crest of the hill and planted colors there, but the position was a hot one, and some breaking to the rear on the left caused the whole to give way for a time. The troops were rallied on the slope of the hill, lines reformed, and all in readiness to resume the attack, when the enemy advanced his line immediately in my front, down the hill, with some impetuosity. The line was instantly ordered forward to meet this charge, and the command quickly responded to. The enemy was met by a volley and a charge which did much execution, his line broken, and his troops fled in some confusion, but as there was no corresponding forward movement by the brigades on my right and left, and as the hill near the crest was very difficult to ascend, he had time either to reform or to bring up a second line before we reached the top of the hill, and another repulse was the consequence. Troops never rallied more promptly, and without confusion or clamor. On taking position near the foot of the hill it was found necessary to distribute ammunition, and, while this was being done, Colonel Kelly came up with his brigade, and moved forward to the assault. The seventh Mississippi, Colonel Kelly commanding, of my brigade, having some ammunition in the cartridge boxes, was ordered in with Col. Kelly, to strengthen his command as much as possible. Soon after, two Florida regiments, under Colonel Emley, also moved forward to Colonel Kelly's support. It was now nearly night, and the importance of completing the day's work, thus far so handsomely accomplished by the left wing, was apparent to all. Kelly made a most vigorous attack, supported as above, and succeeded in occupying a portion of the heights from which he had driven the enemy. Night, at this time, put an end to further pursuit. Every preparation was now made for a renewal of the conflict early the next morning.

At eleven o'clock, P. M., of the 20th, Major General Hindman sent for me and turned over to me the command of the division, which he had assumed the evening previous, having received a confusion

which disabled him from further service at that time, and here my connection with the brigade ceased, the command thereof devolving upon Colonel J. H. Sharp, of the forty-fourth Mississippi regiment. The light of the morning of the 21st disclosed the fact that the enemy had, under cover of darkness, hastily withdrawn towards Chattanooga, from a field in which he had been so severely but justly punished.

In the first charge, after moving up to General Deas' line, which had been checked near the base of a range of wooded hills west of the Chattanooga road, the brigade captured three pieces of artillery, killing many of the cannoneers at their guns, and taking others prisoners. A little further on, and to the left, the forty-first Mississippi, my left regiment, captured a battery of five guns, among which were several fine rifled pieces. Several stands of colors were also taken during the day. No note was taken of the number of prisoners captured by the brigade. They were merely ordered to the rear without guard or escort. Nine ordnance wagons, loaded with fixed ammunition, several mules and horses, etc., etc., were also taken and turned over to the proper officers.

I cannot close this brief recital of facts, connected with the operations of the brigade I had the honor to command on the 20th, without testifying to the officers and troops my high appreciation of the valor, courage and skill displayed by them on this memorable field. Without a single exception, so far as my knowledge at this time extends, they have borne themselves gallantly and added fresh laurels to those so nobly won upon the former fields of Shiloh, Munfordsville, Perryville and Murfreesboro'. To the regimental, battalion and battery commanders, individually, my thanks are due, for their zealous, vigorous and unremitting efforts, throughout the whole day to make the battle a decisive one. For instances of individual gallantry, conspicuous above others, I refer to the reports of subordinate commanders, herewith transmitted.

The brigade numbered one hundred and fifty-six officers and one thousand seven hundred and nine enlisted men on the morning of the 20th; the loss was five hundred and fifty-eight, of whom eighty were killed, four hundred and fifty-four wounded, and twenty-four missing. Among the killed I regret to record the name of Major John C. Thompson, of the forty-fourth Mississippi regiment. A man of education and position at home, of an age far beyond that prescribed by the laws of the land for involuntary service, at the first summons of war he enlisted in the ranks and fought as a private in the ranks of the 1st and 5th, having been severely wounded at the latter. His gallantry and services marked him before the men of his State for promotion, which he soon after received, and commanded his regiment with his usual gallantry at the battle of Murfreesboro'. On this memorable field of the Chickamauga his devotion to the cause of his country has been sealed with the blood of a patriot.

I am, Major, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

PATTON ANDERSON,

*Brigadier General commanding.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL L. E. POLK.

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S BRIGADE, }  
*Before Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 10, 1863* }

To Captain IRVING A. BUCK,  
*Assistant Adjutant General Cleburne's Division :*

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade, composed of the following regiments, from left to right: third and fifth Confederate, commanded by Colonel J. A. Smith; first Arkansas, Colonel J. W. Colquitt; second Tennessee, commanded by Colonel W. D. Robinson; forty-eighth Tennessee, commanded by Colonel G. H. Nixon; and thirty-fifth Tennessee, commanded by Colonel B. J. Hill, and Calvert's battery, commanded by Lieutenant S. J. Key, in the battle of the 19th and 20th of September, on Chickamauga creek:

On Saturday morning, the 19th of September, my brigade rested in line of battle on the right of Cleburne's division, which formed the extreme left of the army of Tennessee. About one o'clock, P. M., I received orders to move in the direction of the right of the army. The necessary orders were immediately given, and my brigade commenced moving down Chickamauga creek, wading the creek at Tete's ford, and, moving on, was placed in position some three hundred yards in rear of Liddell's division, on the extreme right of the army. The other brigades of Cleburne's division following, were placed in position on the prolongation of my left. In this move, some eight miles, from the left to the right of the army, although expeditiously performed, some hours were taken. About five and a half o'clock, P. M., I received orders from General Cleburne to move my brigade forward, to pass over Liddell's division in our front, and engage and drive the enemy before us. My brigade was immediately moved forward, and, having passed Liddell's division some two hundred yards, encountered the enemy strongly posted on the side of a hill, with temporary breastworks, who immediately opened a destructive fire of grape, canister and small arms upon the left of my line, which, for a moment, caused a delay in my advance. The right of the brigade overlapping their line, and finding little resistance in their front, wheeled to the left and took the enemy on the flank. At the same time, two batteries of artillery, Semple's and Key's, having been ordered up by General Cleburne between Wood's and my brigade, opened at short range upon the enemy. Their lines gave way, and they fell back in great confusion. We continued to press them till nearly nine o'clock, when, there being some danger of firing into our own men, we were ordered to halt and rectify our lines. This ended the contest for the night, most of the fighting having been done since dark. In this engagement we drove the enemy seven miles and a quarter, captured over fifty prisoners and three pieces of artillery and same number of cais-







*John C. Beckwith.*

sons. The loss of the brigade, considering the heavy musketry, was light, not being over sixty men killed and wounded. We rested in line of battle the remainder of the night, with a strong line of skirmishers thrown some four hundred yards in front.

On Sunday morning, the 20th, our provision wagons were brought up and the men permitted to eat their breakfast, having been without anything to eat for twenty-four hours. My brigade was again ordered forward, commencing the move about nine o'clock; General Breckinridge having placed his line upon the prolongation of my right, with two batteries of artillery between the right of my brigade and left of his division; owing to some mistakes I did not receive the order to advance until a few moments after General Breckinridge's division had been put in motion. Immediately upon the order being received I moved my brigade, obliquing slightly to the right, so as to keep my right connected with General Breckinridge's left; the enemy's fortifications running off at right angles to the rear of their line opposite the right of my brigade. I was not able to recover my immediate connection with his left before I encountered the enemy, strongly posted in a strong line of fortifications, on the crest of a hill; my line from right to left soon became furiously engaged—the enemy pouring a most destructive fire of canister and musketry into my advancing line, so terrible, indeed, that my line could not advance in the face of it, but lying down partially, protected by the crest of a hill, we continued the fight some hour and a half. Wood's brigade not promptly supporting me upon the left, it was impossible to charge their breastworks. My ammunition becoming exhausted, by orders, I fell back some four hundred yards, leaving a line of skirmishers in my front to oppose the advance of the enemy, until my ammunition could be replenished. The enemy were too much hurt to advance, and were well satisfied to hold their works. I remained in this position some hours. In this engagement my loss was very great, amounting to some three hundred and fifty killed and wounded. Among the number was Captain W. J. Morris, of third and fifth Confederate regiment, a brave and worthy officer. Captain McKnight, of second Tennessee regiment, also fell in these engagements in the faithful discharge of his duties. Major Driven, of the second Tennessee, received a most painful and serious wound in the head. Adjutant Greenwood, of first Arkansas, one of the best and most gallant officers in the army, fell mortally wounded. Here also my inspector general, Captain Hugh S. Otey, a brave and faithful officer, was mortally wounded by a cannon ball, from the effect of which he died a few days after. My brigade remained here until about four o'clock, P. M., when I was ordered by General Cleburne to advance and take up my position upon the left of Brigadier General Jackson. Arriving in this position, I found General Jackson's line advancing; partially wheeling my brigade to the left, I immediately advanced with Jackson's brigade, and again encountered the enemy behind their breastworks, some five hundred yards to the right of where I engaged them in the morning. Again I was met by a terrible volley of grape, canister and small arms, which caused a temporary halt. Ordering

Lieutenant Key to bring up his battery beneath the crest of the ridge, where my line of battle was fighting, he replied that his horses could not live a moment under such a fire. I then ordered him to bring the pieces by hand, and, assisted by some volunteers from the brigade, succeeded in doing so, and opened upon their breastworks with double charges of canister at a distance of less than two hundred yards. observing, at this time, that the enemy's line wavered, I immediately ordered a charge, and, at four and a half o'clock, succeeded in getting possession of their first line of works, taking more than two hundred prisoners, all of them regulars. The enemy fell back in some confusion to his second line and again made a stand. About this time some batteries of artillery, which General Cleburne had massed on a hill upon my left, poured so destructive a fire upon the columns coming up to support the troops in the breastworks, that, finding that their supports had been driven back, they gave way and retired in great confusion from their second line of breastworks, and did not stop a moment in their third line. I moved my brigade rapidly forward and pursued them across the Chattanooga road, reaching the road a little before dark. At this time the firing had stopped every where, and the army of Rosecranz was in rapid and disorderly retreat towards Chattanooga. In this engagement my loss, though not as heavy as in the morning, was heavy, losing nearly two hundred men. It was here that Captain Beard, of the third and fifth Confederate regiment, and Captain George Moore, of same regiment, both gallant officers, met their death. Here also Captain N. C. Hockersmeth and Lieutenant A. J. Petner, of the first Arkansas regiment, were seriously wounded. Many other true and brave men also fell here.

During the entire fight the men and officers of my brigade acted well.

Among the officers who were most distinguished at the battle of Chickamauga, I must mention the name of Colonel B. J. Hill, thirty-fifth Tennessee regiment. Upon every field in the west, from Shiloh to Chickamauga, this officer has acted with conspicuous courage and coolness. I earnestly recommend his name for promotion.

Colonel Smith, of third and fifth Confederate regiment, acted with his usual courage and skill. He has since been promoted. Promotion could not have fallen upon one more worthy.

Colonel Robinson, Colonel Colquitt, Colonel Nixon, Lieutenant Colonel Holes, and Major Pearson all deserve well of their country.

I respectfully refer you to reports of regimental commanders for other names distinguished for gallantry.

I here return my thanks to Captain W. H. King, my assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant Schell, for efficient service rendered upon the field.

A full list of the casualties in my brigade has already been sent forward.

Respectfully,

L. E. POLK,  
Brigadier General.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL S. A. M. WOOD

HEADQUARTERS WOOD'S BRIGADE, }  
*Missionary Ridge, Tennessee, October 9, 1863.* }

Captain BUCK, A. A. G.:

SIR: The undersigned submits the following report of the part taken by his brigade in the battle of the 19th and 20th of September, 1863, near Chickamauga river:

The brigade consisted of the thirty-second and forty-fifth Mississippi regiments, commanded by Colonel M. P. Lowry; the thirty-third Alabama, Colonel Samuel Adams; the forty-fifth Alabama, Colonel Breedlove, and the sixteenth Alabama, Major McGaughey; also, Major A. T. Hankins' battalion of sharpshooters. Semple's battery is attached to this brigade, but had been, about the time we arrived in the field, directed by orders from the division chief of artillery.

At twelve o'clock, on the 19th, the brigade was in line of battle on the Lafayette and Chattanooga road, near where the left of our army was engaged with the enemy. Orders were received to march in rear of Brigadier General Polk's brigade. After moving in a north-eastwardly direction for four or five miles, we approached the field near the right of our army and formed in line of battle, after crossing the West Chickamauga creek at a ford, the men wading. This delayed our march in order to close up, which was farther delayed by two batteries taking the road. The brigade was formed in line as follows: Right—Hankins, Lowry, Breedlove, McGaughey; Adams, left. Brigadier General Polk was on my right; Brigadier General Deshler on my left. At this time Major General Cleburne ordered me to move forward, (the guide being upon my brigade,) and, if I met with any batteries, not to delay, but charge and take them. I communicated this order to each of my colonels. Skirmishers were thrown out three hundred yards in advance. Firing of pickets was all this time going on in our front, and I heard it remarked that a line of our troops were in that direction. The order was now given to advance. We soon came to a line of our men lying down, which we passed over. In a few minutes our skirmishers were engaged and the line pressed rapidly to the front, passing through a wooded and slightly undulating country, until we reached the field. The line touched the fence in a slight ravine or hollow, the ground gradually ascending in the field in front. The opening covered nearly the length of my brigade, and was about two or three hundred yards across. The enemy were strongly posted in rear of this field, having constructed breastworks of rails and logs. They opened fire, as we crossed the fence, with great rapidity. The command moved up vigorously against a foe almost wholly protected from our fire, and who delivered volley after volley into our ranks. When we had reached the farther side of the field, many of the enemy still remained

behind their defences, and shots were delivered in twenty paces of each other. In crossing this field Colonel Lowry, of the thirty-second Mississippi regiment, greatly distinguished himself by his continued exertions in urging forward his command. The enemy were routed from their defences and driven into the woods. In advancing the brigade to my right had changed direction to the left, which threw its left in front of my right and prevented Colonel Lowry's command and Major Hanks' sharpshooters from firing. I sent my assistant adjutant general, Captain Palmer, to order them to cease firing; but, before he arrived, Colonel Lowry had anticipated the order by giving it himself. The forty-fifth Alabama regiment, next to the right, was now in advance of Colonel Lowry and halted, ceasing to fire at this time, as did also the sixteenth Alabama, the enemy having fallen back. The thirty-third Alabama, being my left in advancing, was pressed upon by the right of Deshler's brigade, which I strove to prevent. The direction of their line being slightly oblique to mine, and it being dark, some little confusion occurred as to the positions of the different commands, which were soon rectified. Skirmishers were ordered out in front of the brigade, and then doubled. We captured over a hundred prisoners, besides the wounded left on the field. Most of them were taken at the log defences, which they said they had been instructed to hold to the last. In no action has this command ever displayed more eagerness to engage the enemy, or been more successful in their attack. The brunt of the action was on the left of Polk's brigade and across mine. He alone advanced through an open field and against the defences of logs and rails. Other troops had failed to carry this position during the day, as we heard. The confusion which happened to one of the regiments was the result of some unauthorized person giving a command "to retreat," (see report of sixteenth Alabama regiment,) and that was soon rectified by Major McGaughey. The whole command lay upon their arms during the night, in line of battle. Semple's battery, attached to my brigade, was not under my control during this action. I, however, saw it placed in position by the division chief of artillery, and its fire was of the greatest service in routing the enemy and silencing his batteries. On the morning of the 20th, the troops were aroused at early dawn, the line rectified, the skirmishers in front relieved, and everything made ready to engage the enemy. Ammunition had been replenished during the night. Shortly after daylight, a day's ration of cooked provisions was brought up and distributed. The morning was cold, and the men were allowed to have small fires and eat their breakfast. At ten o'clock I was notified the line was about to near the enemy, and that the movement would commence on my right. I had already heard that it was probable that my brigade overlapped troops to my left not of this division, and that some irregularity existed in the lines as formed. At a few minutes past ten the brigade on my right moved forward, and I moved with it. Its left soon crowded on my right, when I obliqued to the left to give room. In a few moments it made a rapid movement obliquely to the right, leaving a gap. The brigade was at once ordered to follow this movement and



every exertion was made to do so, but we were now under fire of artillery, and had advanced but a short distance when my right was within short range of the enemy's rifles. They were hidden behind logs and timber, covered with bushes. The whole line, to the right, was now at a halt and firing; this was followed by the right of my brigade. Hankins' sharpshooters and Colonel Lowry's regiment. The Major General passed me at this moment, and I informed him that my left had passed over some of our troops lying down and were in front of them. The whole front of the brigade to my left was covered by other troops. He directed me to see to the left of my command, and said that Deshler's brigade would be taken to the right. The sixteenth and thirty-third Alabama regiments were ordered to lie down on a line with the troops in the front line to my left, who were also lying down. I found Brigadier General Bowen at the right of his line, and told him that the batteries now firing on us would enfilade me if I advanced without a corresponding advance to my left. He said he had no orders to advance, but would send to Major General Stewart for orders. Major General Stewart came to that position and having ordered his division forward, I immediately ordered the forty-fifth Alabama regiment, supporting my battery, up into line with the sixteenth and thirty-third Alabama regiments, and ordered them all forward. About this time the line to the right had fallen back, and the position occupied by Colonel Lowry and Major Hankins was taken by Deshler's brigade. The peculiar character of the enemy's works, represented by a diagram annexed, will show that, whilst the right of my command was very near them, an angle was formed in its front and the enemy's line was thrown back so as to give them the cover of woods and compel us to advance through a wide field. My brigade advanced into this field. The thirty-third Alabama, under the lead of its gallant colonel, crossed the field and the Chattanooga road. The fire of the enemy at this point was most destructive, and though this movement was supported by Brown's, Clayton's and Bate's brigades, it was not long before all had to return, and were again assembled and formed at the position from which they last advanced. My command, being the right of the line advancing against this returned line of the enemy, was subjected to a cross and enfilading fire, which was very severe on all, but especially on the forty-fifth Alabama regiment, which was forced back earlier than the sixteenth and thirty-third Alabama and reformed on Colonel Lowry's regiment. As soon as the position of these regiments could be ascertained, the sixteenth and thirty-third were ordered to take their places in the line, they being six or eight hundred yards in advance on the left. During this movement Semple's battery, under the command of Lieutenant Goldthwaite, followed the brigade and opened effectively on the enemy. In the second advance it was not deemed desirable that the battery should advance with the brigade, the batteries of other brigades on our left being ordered to remain in position. After reforming our line, a division was moved to our right, (Cheatham's,) and I received an order to move up to the support of Polk's brigade. I formed in line with it, threw out skirmishers, and moved to the

right a half mile. Our skirmishers were engaged with the enemy until nearly sundown, when, General Polk having advanced and desiring the support of a regiment, I directed Colonel Lowry to go to his support. But the enemy had been routed.

In conclusion, it may be stated that no command conducted itself with more spirit or determination. By subsequent examination of the field, it was observed that at no point were the enemy's works so strong as in our front, and the peculiar formation of his lines, which, owing to the heavy timber and undergrowth, could not be ascertained by any effort but an assault, subjected the command to a very destructive cross and enfilading fire on Sunday. The reports of the colonels and commanders of batteries and battalions will show a list of casualties. The loss, at the time, in the brigade was ninety-six killed on the field and six hundred and eighty wounded. Many have died since, among them four field officers: Major McGaughey, of the sixteenth Alabama regiment; Major Carr, thirty-second Mississippi; Major Hanks, Hanks' sharpshooters; Major Gibson, Gibson's battalion, attached to thirty-third Alabama regiment. These officers, of the same rank, were all distinguished by former services on the field of battle. They were all of great merit, and their loss will be long deeply regretted by their commands. For further particulars, reference is made to reports of commanders of regiments and companies.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. A. M. WOOD,  
*Brigadier General.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL M. A. STOVALL.

HEADQUARTERS STOVALL'S BRIGADE,  
*Breckinridge's Division, Hill's Corps, Missionary Ridge,* }  
October 3, 1863.

To Major JAMES WILSON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the action of Sunday, the 20th of September, 1863:

In obedience to orders from headquarters Breckinridge's division, of date September 16, 1863, I moved from my position on the Alpine road, near Lafayette, Georgia, on the Catlin's Gap road, at or near the latter place on the morning of the 17th. Here I remained in position until the morning of the 18th, when I was ordered to proceed on the Crawfish to Chattanooga road. I halted at the intersection of the two latter for about thirty minutes, when I marched to Pigeon ridge, near Glass' mill, (stopping and forming line of battle for a short while, in the meantime,) and again went into position. I remained at this place until Saturday, the 19th, when I was again moved down the Chattanooga road to Snow hill. Skirmishers had scarcely been deployed, and the proper dispositions made, when I was ordered still further forward in a northeasterly direction to the battle-field as reinforcements to the right of our line, reported then to be hard pressed by the enemy. This move did not commence until five o'clock, P. M.; hence I did not get into position until Sunday, the 20th instant. Saturday night, the 19th instant, we slept on the edge of the battle-field, and moved out into position at four o'clock, A. M., the next (Sunday) morning. We formed a line of battle at sunrise, this division being on the extreme right of the army—my brigade being in the centre of the division, and between the brigades of Brigadier Generals Adams and Helm respectively. Skirmishers, twenty-five men from each regiment, were immediately deployed, under command of Lieut. Col. Badger, of the fourth Florida regiment. Subsequently, orders were received to advance the line thus deployed, and for a regiment to be thrown forward to support them. In obedience thereto, I ordered Colonel Borden, commanding the fourth Florida regiment, to take out his command as the support required. For the manner in which he manœuvred it, while in advance, I respectfully refer to the accompanying report from him.

Between nine and ten o'clock, my brigade was ordered to advance. I moved out in good order, parallel to the Chattanooga road, about a half mile, not without first encountering two distinct lines of the enemy's skirmishers and driving them in. Here the brigade was halted and, by a flank movement, formed nearly perpendicular to its former position. Thus reformed, I moved forward, and had not gone far before I encountered the enemy in heavy force and strongly

entrenched. Here the battle raged fiercely. A concentrated fire of grape and canister, shot and shell, of every conceivable character, was poured into us from the front, while my left suffered no less from an enfilading fire equally galling and severe. Brigadier General Helm's brigade, having encountered the enemy's breastworks, was unable to keep up the alignment, which taken with the fact that the reserve ordered to our support failed to come up, and the further fact that my left, as well as my front, was thus exposed, the brigade, in fact, the whole line, was forced to retire. The troops of my command fell back simultaneously, forming in perfect order, not exceeding two hundred yards in rear of the position for which they had gallantly contested. From this position I was still further retired and placed in position on the extreme right of the division, acting as a support to the command of Major General William H. T. Walker. Here I remained at rest for a few hours. During the interval, I had my cartridge boxes all replenished, my command remaining quiet until four o'clock, P. M. About that hour I was ordered to move my brigade to the extreme right of the line. Again formed nearly parallel to the Chattanooga road. This latter movement was ordered that we might form part of a support to the brigades of Brigadier Generals Liddell and Walthall. They were soon driven in, but were afterwards reformed and thrown forward a second time. Just at this juncture, I was ordered to advance. Changing my direction by a left half wheel, I was brought to the enemy's line. Thus in position, I commenced the charge. My brigade pressed through two lines of our own troops, passed over the enemy's breastworks, and with deafening shouts of patriotic enthusiasm, pursued the foe to the Chattanooga road, where, in obedience to orders, I halted, night putting an end to the conflict.

I respectfully refer to the accompanying statement, marked —, showing the regiment, name, and rank of every officer and soldier killed, wounded, and missing; also the character of the wounds.

I am much indebted to Colonel Dilworth, first and third Florida; Colonel Borden, fourth Florida; Lieutenant Colonel Ray, sixtieth North Carolina, and Captain Coue, forty-seventh Georgia, who led their respective commands with skill and judgment. Also, to Captain Weaver, who succeeded to the command of the sixtieth North Carolina after its colonel was disabled. Captain J. P. C. Whitehead, my assistant adjutant general; Lieutenant A. J. Hanson, and Captain J. H. Hall, (who was severely wounded in the shoulder,) displayed great coolness and daring during the conflict, and to them I am much indebted for valuable services rendered; also, to Lieutenant A. Dunham, ordnance officer, for the promptness manifested in the discharge of the duties of his responsible office.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. A. STOVALL,

*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE MANEY.

HEADQUARTERS MANEY'S BRIGADE, }  
*In the Field, near Chattanooga, Tennessee, Oct. 6, 1863.* }

Major JAMES D. PORTER,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the battle of the 19th and 20th instants, near Chickamauga creek:

My brigade was composed of the fourth Tennessee regiment, Colonel James A. McMurry commanding; the sixth and ninth Tennessee regiments, (consolidated,) Colonel George C. Porter commanding; the first and twenty-seventh Tennessee regiments, (consolidated,) Colonel H. R. Field commanding; Maney's battalion sharpshooters, Major Frank Maney commanding, and a field battery of four twelve-pounder Napoleon guns, under the command of First Lieutenant Wm. B. Turner.

My command crossed Chickamauga creek at Hunt's ford, on the morning of the 19th September, and, after proceeding in a northern direction about two miles by the flank, was formed in line of battle. I here met General Liddell's command, which was being reformed, after having been, as I understood, severely engaged with superior numbers. Passing forward of this command towards the engagement then pending, and which seemed to have been taken up by brigades in advance of me, I was, after some inconsiderable halts, ordered to enter action by relieving Jackson's brigade—my information at the time, being, that Strahl's brigade would be in line on my left. The position pointed out to me as the one at which I was to relieve Jackson's command was a ridge well wooded, where the right half of my command rested, but from the centre to my left, the timber on the side of approach had been newly felled and presented some difficulty to easy passage in line. In extension to my left, there was an open corn-field—a narrow strip of woodland intervening. My line commenced engaging instantly on reaching the top of the ridge described, and in a few moments afterwards I was informed by a messenger from General Forrest that there was nothing on the right but his cavalry, and that he was unable to sustain himself against the strong force of the enemy which was pressing him. Strahl's brigade was not at this moment in line with me on the left, it having, as I afterwards learned, become earlier engaged and fallen back to reform. My own line numbered less than one thousand guns. My battery was just in rear of my centre, but the ground was not favorable to its advantageous engagement. About three hundred yards in my rear there was a hill-top in open woods—a most favorable position in many particulars for a battery. Lieutenant Turner was ordered to leave one piece in position, to be used in any emergency which might arise, and retire the remaining three to this hill-top, and there take position and await

further orders. Some moments after this I heard a battery open in rear of the right of my line, and hastening to it I found that Forrest had been forced in on my right. General Forrest in person was with the battery, which was firing obliquely to the front and right, and, as I thought, too much in range with two companies of my right regiment, which had been thrown out as flankers to this part of my line. General Forrest was apprised of this fact and requested to oblique his guns more to the right, which he did and continued firing, as he informed me the enemy was certainly approaching in force from that direction. The firing was now constant along my entire front, and the enemy's indicated that his line extended far beyond my left. Forrest's battery was some protection to my right flank, and my single Napoleon, while it could not fire with any effect over the ridge in front, was in position to rake the open field to the left and rear of my line, and to this extent prevented the enemy's coming behind us, unless it should first be driven off by sharpshooters, lodged on the ridgetop, under cover of the woods between my line and the field. The action increased in fury, especially on the left, and I was soon convinced that my command was greatly overmatched in numbers. A staff officer was sent with this information to the division General, and another to my left and rear in search of General Strahl, with the request for him to move up in line with me on the left. Passing myself to the ridgetop to the left of my line, I discovered the enemy but a short distance from my left, advancing by the flank boldly and evidently with the purpose of passing through this skirt of wood at right angles with my line, and thus gain my rear and centre of my left flank. The emergency was critical, and, being without a staff officer, I hastened in person to General Strahl, who I found had received my message and was aligning for an advance. To avoid delay, I asked him to move forward a single regiment to hold the interval between my left and the open field, and he ordered his right regiment, Colonel Walker's, and perhaps another to advance immediately. This force made a gallant drive forward, and the enemy gave way before them. I had, about this time, received the order to fall back and form behind Smith's brigade, which was in line with my guns on the hilltop in the rear. My line was retired in as good order as its shattered condition would admit of. Before reaching Smith's line, I was instructed to continue my infantry back to the ordnance wagons, for a supply of ammunition. The ammunition replenished, my command again moved forward and bivouacked for the night in line with and on the left of the division, without further engagement of my infantry for the day.

My advanced gun, under the immediate command and efficient management of First Lieutenant Smith, after covering the retiring line with several well-directed shots at short-range, was withdrawn to the hilltop and took position with the other three—the battery, by order of the division General, being retained there with the line formed to check the enemy's advance. The service it here rendered in checking and driving back the enemy's advancing line did not occur under my immediate eye, but is reported as brilliant and decisive. The





enemy, pressing forward on what he deemed our yielding lines, was met by shot and shell, and then double charges of canister belched in quick succession from four as good guns and, in my judgment, as gallantly and efficiently manned and served as any our service can boast. Three times his lines were broken and shattered before their deadly discharges, and finally he abandoned, in disordered rout, all efforts to capture them. The excellent conduct of Lieutenant Turner and his gallant officers and men on this occasion was but a repetition of their services on the fields of Perryville and Murfreesboro'.

The active engagement of my command on Saturday was about three-quarters of an hour in duration and extremely severe. Besides being opposed on all parts by largely superior numbers, two of the enemy's batteries were actively served against it obliquely from the right and left, and ranging principally from the centre to the left of my lines. The loss in this engagement was heavy, including some of the most valuable officers of my command. Colonel McMurry, a gentleman of the noblest qualities and an officer of fine abilities and great gallantry, received a wound in the thickest of the fight, from which he has since died, and Lieutenant Colonel Lewis and Major Bradsbaw, of the same regiment, both officers of great merit, were, in quick succession, severely wounded in the gallant discharge of their duties.

In Turner's battery the loss of officers was two of the four—First Lieutenant Smith severely wounded and Second Lieutenant Ingraham killed. Both these officers displayed great gallantry. While the behavior of my entire line was of a character so entirely satisfactory and commendable as to forbid the claim of superiority in conduct of any one part over another, the extreme left, held by the sixth and ninth regiments, (consolidated,) was most exposed, and the chances of the day demanded of this veteran command a bloody sacrifice. It is but a just tribute to say the demand was met by them as became heroes in many battles. Their loss in killed and wounded was over half their number engaged, including among the latter Major Wilder and many other officers of excellent merit.

On Sunday, the 20th, my command remained in line of battle, with the other brigades of the division, where it had bivouacked the night before, some half a mile to the left of the position of my previous day's engagement, until about two o'clock, P. M., when I was ordered to move by the right flank about the distance of a mile, when I was halted for a considerable time, receiving, in this position, some shelling, but sustaining but small loss. Late in the afternoon I was ordered into line with other brigades of the division for a general movement, as I understood, against the enemy's main position near the Chattanooga road. There was at this time sharp firing obliquely to my front and left, and about the time I was in line Brigadier General Polk, of Cleburne's division, came up, asking for assistance, and stating that his command had gained a portion of the enemy's breastworks, but was engaged in front without support on either flank, adding that if I would advance it would relieve him. I did not feel



at liberty to detach myself without instructions from my division commander, but at this moment discovering General Cheatham a short distance to my right, I proceeded to him immediately and gave him the information just received from General Polk, when I was ordered to go to his assistance. On my return General Polk was not present to advise me of the precise position of his command, he having, I suppose, in the meantime rejoined it; but remembering his remark, that I would relieve him by advancing, I moved directly forward. This movement brought me into action, I think, some two or three hundred yards to his right. The order to advance was received by my entire line with an enthusiasm plainly telling that their valor was more stimulated than abated by their severe suffering of the previous day. My line was soon engaged, but the force in front yielded and were driven rapidly back. A fire was, however, opened on my left flank, but the giving way of the enemy in front and the continued rapid advance of my line caused this to cease and the enemy delivering it quickly abandoned his position on my left under the impression, as prisoners stated to me, that our movement would gain his rear. As soon as the firing ceased I commenced reforming my line, which had become considerably disordered by its rapid movement through thick woods and undergrowth. Before this was done I was joined by Wright's brigade, which came forward after me. It was now some time after sunset, and almost entirely dark in the thick woods. Skirmishers and small parties thrown forward for observation reported no enemy in front between me and the Chattanooga road. General Breckinridge's entire command came from towards my right, passing in rear of and almost at right angles with my line. Under these circumstances, and to avoid the danger of collision with our own troops in the darkness, I sent a staff officer to advise the division general of the result of my movement, with the information that I had halted for further orders. My staff officer returned, reporting that he did not find General Cheatham, but had delivered my report to Lieutenant General Polk, who directed that I should remain where I was. I then bivouacked for the night in the enemy's breastworks, where, I understood, had been the main position of Thomas' corps. My loss in this engagement was light compared with that of the previous day.

On Monday, at two o'clock, P. M., the enemy having abandoned the field and, during the preceding night, withdrawn to Chattanooga, our march commenced toward that point. We bivouacked for the night on Chickamauga creek, about — miles from the battlefield.

Early Tuesday morning we resumed the march, gaining the road leading from Chickamauga station to Chattanooga, about one mile and a half east of Missionary ridge. Advancing by this road, it was ascertained the enemy occupied the ridge, and, after a short halt, for the purpose of reconnoitering, my brigade, being in front, was ordered by Major General Cheatham to drive them from and take possession of the ridge. My line was formed on the right of the road and properly sustained with skirmishers. With these dispositions my command was advanced to the attack, and after a spirited engagement

of a few moments the enemy was driven, and the ridge top was in our possession. My loss in this affair was eighteen killed and wounded.

Through all the trials and dangers incident to their part in this memorable battle, the conduct of my command was such as might have been expected of intelligent and patriotic veterans. Their ranks had been thinned on many other fields, yet all were eager here to strike for the right as though there was no death, no suffering before them, but only their cause to serve.

I feel it proper, in addition to those whose good conduct has been mentioned in connection with their wounds, to express my thanks to Colonels Porter and Field, commanding regiments, and their associate field officers, Lieutenant Colonel Buford, Lieutenant Colonel House and Major Allen, for their zealous and efficient aid throughout the engagement. Also to Major Maney, commanding battalion of sharpshooters, and Captain Bostick, of the seventh Tennessee regiment, who commanded the regiment with gallantry and ability after the fall of all its field officers. Lieutenant Turner, commanding battery, deserves especial notice for the effective and decisive manner in which his battery was commanded and served. I also mention Lieutenant Henry, of the battery, for his gallant and efficient conduct. My staff, Captain Porter, assistant adjutant general; Lieutenant House, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Ruble, assistant adjutant and inspector general, have my thanks for their courage and great assistance throughout the engagement. Private William Whitthorne, for the time disabled by a wound received in a former action, from carrying his musket, tendered his services, and I must commend his intelligence and gallantry in conveying my orders to different parts of the field.

Lists of casualties in my command have been furnished. Reports of battalion commanders herewith filed are referred to for particulars and for instances of gallantry in their commands.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE MANEY,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL O. F. STRAHL.

HEADQUARTERS STRAHL'S BRIGADE, }  
Missionary Ridge, September 30, 1863. }

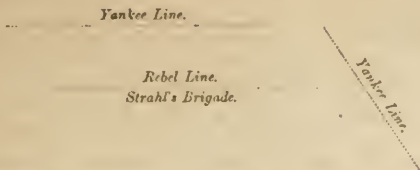
Major JAMES D. PORTER, JR.,

*Assistant Adjutant General Cheatham's Division :*

SIR: On the morning of the 19th instant, my brigade, composed of the fourth and fifth, nineteenth, twenty-fourth, thirty-first and thirty-third Tennessee regiments, and Captain Stanford's rifle battery, moved by the right flank, in compliance with orders from division headquarters, and crossed Chickamauga creek about three miles below Lee & Gordon's mill. From this point, and about the middle of the day, we moved rapidly to the right about two miles, where we halted and formed in line of battle immediately on the left of General Maney's brigade. About one o'clock, P. M., I received an order from General Cheatham to move forward, which I did, and took a position immediately in rear of General Smith's brigade, which was at that time hotly engaged with the enemy, and some two hundred yards in front of the position I had taken.

Shortly after taking this position, General Smith sent me word that he was about to be driven back and wished me to come to his support, which I did at once, moving forward over his line to a small elevation some two hundred and fifty yards in his front, entirely relieving him, and engaging the enemy. In a short time after thus engaging the enemy, General Smith rode up to me and told me that my left flank was still in rear of General Wright, and that my right flank was not supported by any one, and that I was in a position to be flanked by the enemy on my right unless I immediately moved in that direction. Discovering, however, that General Wright had retired, and that none of our troops were in my front, and knowing the great danger of attempting a flank movement in the presence and under the fire of an enemy, and expecting General Maney to come up on my right, I did not move in that direction until General Smith rode up to me a second time and told me that General Cheatham directed that I should close the gap between myself and General Jackson by moving to the right. I then concluded that General Maney had been ordered elsewhere, and I, therefore, immediately gave orders to move to the right, but had hardly commenced the movement before the enemy met the front of my column with a murderous and destructive fire, enfilading nearly the whole of my line, and moving in such a direction as soon to be in the rear of my right, if I attempted to hold the position I then had.

The position of the two lines were about as is shown by the following diagram :



Therefore, not knowing whether I was to receive support on my right, and having no time for delay, I immediately gave orders for my line to retire, and at once moved back to a position where I hoped to be able to prevent the enemy from flanking me. I gained this position with my left in good order, my right being thrown into confusion by the heavy fire they were receiving, both from the front and on their flank. The officers, however, all acted with great gallantry and coolness, and immediately rallied their men as soon as they arrived at positions where they could do so and not be in immediate danger of being flanked. In this movement we were compelled to leave most of our men killed and wounded on the field, some of which fell into the hands of the enemy. Our loss whilst placed in this unfortunate position was near two hundred, and among that number some very valuable and gallant officers.

Most of the field officers on my right were dismounted by having their horses shot from under them, and Major Heiskell, of the nineteenth Tennessee regiment, a very gallant officer, was severely wounded in the foot.

During this short encounter with the enemy the nineteenth Tennessee regiment was on my right, and was therefore much more exposed, and consequently met with a much heavier loss than any other in the brigade. But its field officers, Colonel F. M. Walker and Lieutenant Colonel B. F. Moore, acted with such coolness and gallantry that they inspired their men with courage and confidence, and prevented that demoralization which might have been expected under such trying circumstances.

It was now, while engaged in reforming my line, that General Maney came up and pressed the enemy back for some distance on my right, and soon became hotly engaged. As soon as my line was reformed I moved forward to his support, and arrived on a line with his left just in time to meet the enemy, who were advancing rapidly and pressing his line back. My three regiments, the nineteenth, thirty-first and thirty-third, were thrown forward in advance of the left of my brigade and took possession of a small skirt of woods, which they held until the line on their right had fallen back so far that they were again exposed to a severe enfilading fire, when I again ordered them to retire to the position where they had first rallied, in order to prevent the enemy from swinging around my right and thus getting in my rear. Then I reformed my whole line, but

learning that General Smith's brigade was in line just on my right and but a short distance in my rear, and being without support on either flank, I deemed it advisable to move back and form on him, which I did, and remained in this position until dark.

While in this position, my battery, commanded by Captain T. P. Stanford, for the first time opened upon the enemy and shelled them for a short time, but with what effect I could not tell. The ground over which we had been fighting during the afternoon was of such a nature that it would not admit of the use of artillery, and especially of a rifle battery; therefore, I was compelled to meet every advance of the enemy with my infantry alone, although their batteries were playing on me the whole time, and from positions that made their fire very effective. My battery, however, was at all times immediately in my rear, and ready, at a moment's notice, to go into position had an opportunity offered where it could have been used with effect.

About dark General Deshler's brigade, which was then in my rear, was ordered to the front, and moved forward in such a manner as to cover my right. In a short time after he had passed me, going to the front, I was ordered to follow, and did so, continuing to advance until I came up with his line, which was an old field, and near where we had been engaged during the afternoon. Here we bivouacked for the night in line of battle.

During the night our infirmiry corps brought off many of our killed and wounded that we had left on the field.

The next morning we were held in this position until noon or later, when we moved by the right flank to the extreme right of the army, and was then moved forward and placed in position immediately in rear of General Liddell's command, and there remained until the morning of the 21st, when I formed on the right of General Liddell and sent forward skirmishers some two miles and a half, but without discovering an enemy, save some few stragglers, who surrendered without making any resistance.

During the whole engagement my command was almost continually within range of the enemy's cannon, and, at times, suffered severely from it.

My ordnance officer, Lieutenant Winston, during and after the engagement, collected and hauled from the field one thousand stand of small arms.

Several small squads of prisoners were taken by my men and sent to the rear, but without any account of their number.

The company and field officers, as a general thing, conducted themselves with great gallantry and coolness, and discharged their duties in such a manner as to reflect much credit upon themselves and their commands. The privates in the ranks, as usual, displayed that noble courage for which Southern soldiers have ever been distinguished.

My staff officers, Captain J. W. Johnson, A. A. G., and Lieutenant John S. Chapman, A. A. I. G., rendered me very efficient service on the field and during the whole engagement manifested a zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties that was truly commendable.

I have already forwarded to you a list of the casualties of this brigade, showing the name, rank and command of the officers and men killed, wounded and missing during the engagement. That report shows our loss in killed to be nineteen; wounded, two hundred and three, and missing, twenty-eight—making the whole loss sustained by the brigade two hundred and fifty, officers and men.

Some of the missing have since been heard of as wounded and in the hands of the enemy. Many of the wounded men were but slightly injured, and will soon be able to join their comrades. But there are many noble spirits who will never return; and while we have to mourn the loss of our gallant dead, and sympathize with those who are suffering from their wounds, yet we cannot but rejoice that the tide of invasion has, for once, been hurled back, and that the faces of our gallant and victorious soldiers are now turned towards their homes, and that a new and unconquerable spirit has been aroused throughout our whole army.

Respectfully submitted,

O. F. STRAHL,  
*Brigadier General.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL M. J. WRIGHT.

HEADQUARTERS WRIGHT'S BRIGADE, CHEATHAM'S DIVISION, }  
Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee, }  
In the Field, October 9, 1863. }

Major JAMES D. PORTER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General Cheatham's Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my brigade in the battle of Chickamauga, on the 19th and 20th ultimo:

On Saturday, 19th ultimo, at half-past eight o'clock, A. M., I was ordered by Major General Cheatham to advance and cross the Chickamauga at a ford known as ——— ford, following immediately after Brigadier General Preston Smith's brigade, and followed by Brigadier General George Maney's brigade. Immediately after we crossed the ford heavy firing commenced in our front, which was ascertained to be an engagement between the reserve division of Major General Walker and the enemy, who was in heavy force and was pressing Walker hotly with his largely superior numbers. My brigade, after crossing, was formed in line of battle in a field, in the rear of Brigadier General Smith. I was ordered to follow immediately in the rear of Smith when he moved. In an hour Smith moved in the direction of the battle-field, and we followed closely in his rear. After moving into a wood in a direction inclining down the Chickamauga, another halt was made of half an hour, when I received an order from General Cheatham to form in line of battle and move forward in a direction nearly at right angles to the road along which we were posted, with that brave and accomplished officer, General Preston Smith, still on my right. Maney being in my rear in the line of march, I supposed that he would be ordered up to the left. Indeed, in the act of executing the forward movement in line of battle, I was informed by General Smith that we were a supporting force to Major General Walker, who was supposed to be in our front.

My brigade is composed of the following regiments, which moved in line, from right to left, in the order named: sixteenth Tennessee regiment, Colonel D. M. Donnell, commanding; eighth Tennessee regiment, Colonel John H. Anderson commanding; fifty-first and fifty-second Tennessee regiments, Lieutenant Colonel John G. Hall commanding; twenty-eighth Tennessee regiment, Colonel S. S. Stanton commanding; thirty-eighth Tennessee regiment and Murray's Tennessee battalion, Colonel John C. Carter commanding, with the battery of light artillery commanded by Captain Wm. W. Carnes. The men moved up in splendid style, obeying all orders with the alacrity and precision which is their habit on parade. With the information I had received, believing Major General Walker in our front, I had directed each regiment to throw out skirmishers, and thus guard against the too frequent and often criminal folly of pouring a





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fire into the rear of our own comrades in arms when engaged against a foe in front. This order I immediately countermanded when it became quite evident that a most galling fire had been opened by the enemy's batteries and infantry upon my right flank and a portion of the centre. This fire continued for some minutes before the left flank was engaged, and was the result of my line of battle being advanced obliquely towards the right, instead of being parallel to the enemy's line. It was certainly due also somewhat to the fact that the sixteenth and eighth Tennessee regiments, extending their line into a corn-field in open view of the enemy, whose position was concealed by timber and undergrowth, were compelled to advance into the wood in front, thus finding a better and more secure position, and some cover for their men from the murderous fire which they were gallantly sustaining.

The centre and left, however, soon became earnestly engaged. Having no eligible position for artillery near the centre, I was compelled to post Carnes' battery (Stauben artillery) on the left of the thirty-eighth Tennessee regiment, being the extreme left of my position; supposing, too, at that time, that I would be supported on the left by the brigades both of Brigadier General Maney and Brigadier General Strahl. My position was near the foot of a declivity, gently rising towards the left and presenting on that flank the highest ground on our line, and therefore the best position for artillery; while that of the enemy was on an eminence rising from the drain or low ground just in our front, many feet above ours, and protected by works probably thrown up the previous night.

Immediately after the enemy's fire was opened, I despatched the order to commence firing to each of the commanding officers of regiments, which was executed promptly and with coolness and precision. I have reason to believe that the effect of our firing upon the enemy was terrific, from the report of a wounded officer, who fell into the hands of the enemy and subsequently escaped, and from a careful survey of the battle-ground by some of the men after the action.

The enemy opened upon us a cross fire of two batteries and a concentrated shower of musket shot from a greatly superior force, their line extending the full length of a brigade beyond my unsupported left. Our men met the terrible fire which was hurled upon them with constancy, coolness, and undaunted courage, bearing the shock like veterans, and not perceptibly wavering beneath its severity, and returning shot for shot as far as their inferiority of numbers would allow.

After sustaining this fire for three hours and a half—from twelve, M., to three and a half, P. M.,—seeing that Brigadier General Smith, immediately on my right, had withdrawn from the field, and learning from some of my officers that their ammunition was nearly exhausted, I determined to order the brigade to retire. Before, however, I could give orders to execute this movement, a courier informed me that the enemy was flanking my position, which, upon moving in that direction, I distinctly discovered, seeing his line moving through the ravine and undergrowth upon the left flank. I then despatched orders to the colonels and commander of the battery to withdraw to a hill about a

quarter of a mile in the rear. Discovering at this opportune moment a supporting brigade approaching in line of battle, and not being able to move rapidly enough to communicate with the General commanding (Brigadier General Clayton) in consequence of my being dismounted, I requested the Colonel commanding the leading regiment to move to my left and protect the men in retiring, which he did promptly and efficiently. At the same time I informed him that the enemy was flanking our position.

Each of the regiments was withdrawn slowly and in good order. Although all the horses of the battery, except three, were killed, and about one-half of the company shot down, either killed or wounded, thus rendering the battery useless to check the advance of the enemy's flanking force, Captain Carnea, First Lieutenant Marshall and Second Lieutenant Cockrill, of the artillery, remained with the battery until they received orders to retire, narrowly escaping capture, and gallantly standing at their posts until the last moment. Second Lieutenant Van Vleck gallantly died at his post.

After retiring from the field I at once despatched a staff officer to Major General Cheatham, advising him of the position of the brigade and informing him of the fact that our ammunition was nearly exhausted, which was promptly supplied.

After five o'clock, P. M., the brigade was again ordered to take position about four hundred yards to the right of the ground on which we had fought the enemy. Major General Cleburne's division and Smith's brigade, of Major General Cheatham's division, at about six o'clock, P. M., on our immediate right, made a most gallant and successful movement upon the enemy's position, but my brigade was not ordered to participate in the glorious charge which cost the lives of many brave patriots, and among them the heroic General Preston Smith.

Having bivouacked at this position on Saturday night, on Sunday morning a line of battle was again formed and held steadily for three hours under a most harassing fire from the enemy's batteries. One man of the sixteenth Tennessee regiment was severely wounded by a round shot. About one o'clock, P. M., I was ordered to move the brigade around to the right of our position, following Maney in moving by the right flank. About six o'clock, P. M., Maney being on our left, I was ordered to follow his movements in line of battle. Major General Walker's division and Brigadier General Jackson's brigade, of Cheatham's division, were already engaged fiercely in assaulting a fortified position of the enemy, at which a very large force of his artillery had been concentrated. A furious contest was raging, with wild and terrible carnage. Though the gallant troops of Walker and Jackson held their position with unsurpassed stubbornness and heroism, yet the enemy, encouraged by the strength, natural and artificial, of his position, and his concentrated forces, was making a most stubborn fight. At this critical moment the two brigades (General Maney's and my own) were precipitated, with a deafening hurrah and a rapid shock, to support our gallant comrades, who were contending against unequal odds. The men were in the highest spirits,

and moved forward with an animation that I have never seen surpassed. At this time the scene was one of the most animated and exciting that can be imagined. The whole issue of the combat seemed suspended upon a moment's work. The shouts of our gallant patriots presaged success, and every eye was lighted with victory. It came at that propitious moment. The enemy, already daunted by the fierce ordeal through which they had passed from the guns of Walker and Jackson, could no longer bear the trial when the cheers of our reinforcing battalions were wafted to them on the evening breeze. They broke in hopeless confusion and rout, precipitately fled before our pursuing columns, leaving their dead and wounded behind them and several pieces of their artillery. Although my brigade did not reach the position in time to fire but a very few guns from the thirty-eighth Tennessee regiment, yet it is a source of heartfelt satisfaction that the cheers of the men and their impetuous charge assisted in striking terror into the heart of the foe and in hastening his inglorious flight.

In this engagement and that of Saturday, the brigade captured seventy-one prisoners, including a captain and two lieutenants. The loss in the brigade was forty-four killed on the field, forty-three missing, (most of whom are known to be, and the others are supposed to be, in the hands of the enemy,) and four hundred wounded.

Among the killed I regret to mention Captain Parks, sixteenth Tennessee regiment; Lieutenant Hainey, Murray's battalion, attached to the thirty-eighth Tennessee regiment; Lieutenant Wade and Color-bearer Bland, of the fifty-first and fifty-second Tennessee regiments; Captain Whaley and Lieutenant Craig, of the twenty-eighth Tennessee regiment, and Lieutenant Van Vleck, Carnes' battery. Among the wounded were Colonels John H. Anderson and D. M. Donnell, Lieutenant Colonel J. G. Hall, and Major T. G. Randle; Captains Puryear, Callom, and Bonds, and Lieutenants Cunningham, Leonard, Flynn and Shaw, eighth Tennessee regiment; Lieutenants Potter, Owen and Worthington, sixteenth Tennessee regiment; Captain McDonald, and Lieutenants Apple, Dauley and Taylor, twenty-eighth Tennessee regiment; Adjutant Caruthers, Lieutenants Banks and Ridout, thirty-eighth Tennessee regiment, and Captain Burton, Lieutenants Billings, Chester, White, Hainey, Tillman and Wade, fifty-first and fifty-second Tennessee regiments. All the field officers of the brigade, and the officers of the battery, acted with such distinguished gallantry that I feel it would be invidious to make a distinction. Company officers and men, with very inconsiderable exceptions that have come to my knowledge, bore themselves with a gallantry and steadiness becoming patriots contending for freedom and all that honorable men hold dear.

I am indebted for valuable assistance during the engagement to my staff officers, Captain Leon Trousdale, assistant adjutant general, Captain E. F. Lee, assistant inspector general, my aids-de-camp, Lieutenant E. T. Harris, and Lieutenant Sidney Womack, and Mr. Charles T. Smith. They each discharged their duties with fidelity and zeal. One of my couriers, Mr. William S. Hill, won the commendation of all and my warm thanks, for his gallantry and alacrity

in the discharge of his perilous duties. Brigadier General W. C. Whitthorne, adjutant general of Tennessee, volunteered to act as aide-de-camp on the first day's march from Chattanooga, and discharged the various duties that I assigned to him with a promptness, courage and ability which merit and receive my warmest thanks. On the field General Whitthorne conducted himself with conspicuous gallantry. The infirmiry corps discharged their duties with such fearlessness and fidelity as to attract my special observation. The provost guard also, under their worthy and gallant provost marshal, Lieutenant Richardson, fully fulfilled the standard of their duties. They lost one killed and two wounded in the engagement of Saturday.

I unite with all true patriots of our country in returning thanks to Almighty God, without whose assistance our strength is weakness, for the substantial victory with which he has crowned our efforts.

I herewith transmit the reports of the regimental commanders of the brigade, to which your especial attention is respectfully invoked.

I regret I cannot accompany them with the report of Captain Carnes, commanding battery, whose absence on business connected with his battery necessarily delays its preparation.

I have the honor to be, Major, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

MARCUS J. WRIGHT;

*Brigadier General.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL J. K. JACKSON.

HEADQUARTERS JACKSON'S BRIGADE, CHEATHAM'S DIVISION, }  
Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee, }  
Before Chattanooga, October 3, 1863. }

Major JOHN INGRAM,

*A. A. G. Cheatham's Division, Polk's Corps, A. T. :*

MAJOR: On the 19th September, 1863, at about seven o'clock in the morning, the brigade which I have the honor to command, being the advance of Major General Cheatham's division, crossed Chickamauga creek at Hunt's or Dalton's ford, about a mile below Lee & Gordon's mill. The brigade was immediately deployed in line of battle on the west side of the creek, and awaited the crossing by the remainder of the division.

At about nine o'clock, A. M., moved by the flank in a northwestern direction and formed line in the rear of Major General Buckner's right, as his reserve. Remained in this position about an hour, when an order was received to move still further to the right to the support of Major General Walker. Passing rapidly about half a mile northward by the right flank, the brigade reached the road leading from Alexander's bridge, and proceeded thence westward about half a mile. Here the line of Major General Walker's troops was reached. My brigade was immediately placed in line of battle and ordered to advance. The order was promptly and cheerfully obeyed, and the advance continued about one hundred and fifty yards, when the enemy opened fire upon my left and centre. The brigade returned the fire, which soon became general. A charge being ordered, the troops responded with great intrepidity, driving the enemy before them from a half to three-quarters of a mile, capturing three pieces of artillery, which were immediately sent to the rear; also, a large number of knapsacks, from which the enemy had been driven.

At this point the enemy, being heavily reinforced and having the advantage of breastworks, checked the advance of the brigade and stubbornly held their ground.

Seeing troops on the left retiring, I sent to enquire the meaning of it, and was informed that it was part of Brigadier General Preston Smith's brigade, which had been pressed back by superior numbers, thus leaving my left flank entirely exposed. Soon after my left fell back, under the false impression that a retreat had been ordered, but were immediately rallied and reformed, and promptly retook their original position. Learning that the enemy were endeavoring to turn my right, which was not protected by any infantry force, and the left being exposed and nearly out of ammunition, I sent a staff officer to request Brigadier General Maney, whose brigade was in reserve, to come to my relief. The contest had now lasted for about two hours, and had been unusually severe. My battery, commanded by Captain

John Scogin, had moved up with the line and done good service. Brigadier General Maney's brigade moved forward gallantly, and, upon being relieved by him, I ordered my brigade to retire, which was done slowly and in good order.

While moving to the rear the horses of one piece and one caisson were disabled, and consequently that piece and caisson fell into the hands of the enemy, but were subsequently recovered. Line of battle was formed, again, in the position occupied before the advance and on the right of Turner's battery. My battery was so posted as to have a cross fire in front of Turner's battery. The enemy's advance upon us was checked at this point.

A little before dark Major General Cleburne, having formed a line on my right, making an obtuse angle with mine, commenced a forward movement, and about the same time an order was received from Major General Cheatham to move up my brigade also, which was promptly done.

The fire of small arms immediately became very severe. The left of my brigade, thinking, in the darkening twilight, that Major General Cleburne's line was in their front, became a little confused by the suddenness and severity of the fire, but were soon brought up and the whole line advanced about six hundred yards. Here the firing abruptly ceased, and, it being now quite dark and the impression still prevailing that our friends were in front, Major W. D. C. Lloyd, my volunteer aid-de-camp, and Lieutenant S. S. Harris, acting inspector general of my brigade, rode forward to ascertain the facts, when Major Lloyd rode into the enemy's lines and was captured.

My brigade had moved in Major General Cleburne's line, with Brigadier General Deshler's brigade on its left. About nine o'clock at night, in order to allow Brigadier General Deshler to close upon his own division, I ordered my brigade to retire to its original position, where it remained until morning.

On Sunday morning, the 20th instant, in pursuance of orders from Major General Cheatham, I moved by the left flank about half a mile and took position as a reserve in the rear of Brigadier General Maney's brigade. Remaining there until about eleven o'clock, A. M., I moved, by order, back to my original position. Here an order was received from General Bragg, through Major Falconer, assistant adjutant general, to move at once with my brigade to the right and front and report to Lieutenant General Hill. I moved promptly by the right flank and sent Captain Merino, my assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant Harris to find Lieutenant General Hill. They returned, reporting their search unsuccessful. At this point, Lieutenant General Polk ordered me to take position on the right of Brigadier General Polk and to move forward at once. Deeming it proper, in pursuance of the order of the commanding General, to report to Lieutenant General Hill for orders, I moved still further by the right flank and to the right of Brigadier General Polk's brigade, and sent again to Lieutenant General Hill, who directed that my brigade should take position on Brigadier General Liddell's left and fill up a gap between that brigade and Major General Cleburne's

right. A staff officer of Lieutenant General Hill having indicated the position my brigade was to take, it was moved forward some one hundred and fifty yards, when the commanding officer of my sharpshooters reported skirmishers of the enemy in heavy force on my left and opposite the gap on Major General Cleburne's right, which my brigade was insufficient to fill. I directed two additional companies to be deployed as skirmishers, with orders to the five companies, consisting of my battalion of sharpshooters and these two companies, to dislodge the enemy. After considerable skirmishing, Major Whitely, of my battalion of sharpshooters, reported that he could not dislodge the enemy; that they were in strong force, and supported by a line of battle and a battery.

I immediately reported these facts to Lieutenant General Hill, and that if I advanced, the gap not being filled up, my left flank would be exposed to an enfilading fire. He sent me an order, nevertheless, to form on Brigadier General Liddell's left and move forward with his line. This order was promptly executed. The brigade, with the battery in the centre, moved forward in splendid style about one hundred yards, when the enemy opened a galling fire from the front and left flank, enfilading the entire line, with canister and small arms. The engagement now became terrific, and the position of my brigade extremely critical. The troops, however, stood nobly to the work before them and, steadily advancing, surmounted the hill on which the enemy's breastworks were, the battery moving with the line and rendering effective service. The enemy were driven from their breastworks, and Brigadier General Maney's brigade, coming up at this opportune moment, charged them, and the contest was over. At daylight on Monday morning the enemy was found to have sought safety in flight, under the cover of darkness.

The report of my provost marshal shows the capture of seventy-four prisoners, (not including wounded men,) representing twenty-two regiments, and from five States.

I annex a list of the killed, wounded and missing of my command, which was composed, from right to left, as follows: Second Georgia battalion sharpshooters, eighth Mississippi regiment, fifth Mississippi regiment, Scogin's battery, second battalion of first Confederate regiment, and the fifth Georgia regiment.

The total effective was one thousand two hundred and eighty-six; the aggregate effective, one thousand four hundred and five; loss, four hundred and ninety; from which it will be perceived that the per centage of casualties was 34.57, and that the greatest loss was in the fifth Georgia regiment, amounting to nearly 55 per cent.

I am, Major, respectfully, &c.,

JOHN K. JACKSON,  
*Brigadier General commanding Brigade.*

*TABULAR STATEMENT of the Casualties of Jackson's Brigade,  
Cheatham's Division, Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee, on the 19th  
and 20th September, 1863, in the battle of Chickamauga.*

| COMMAND.                                      | TOTAL<br>EFFECTIVE. | AGGREGATE<br>EFFECTIVE. | KILLED. | WOUNDED. | MISSING. | TOTAL<br>CASUALTIES. | PER CENTAGE.   |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------------|
| Brigadier General and Staff.....              | .....               | 5                       | .....   | .....    | 1        | 1                    | 20.00          |
| Battalion of Sharpshooters .....              | 101                 | 108                     | 3       | 27       | .....    | 30                   | 27.7           |
| Eighth Mississippi regiment.....              | 375                 | 404                     | 10      | 84       | .....    | 94                   | 23.26          |
| Fifth Mississippi regiment.....               | 225                 | 252                     | 4       | 70       | 1        | 75                   | 29.76          |
| Scogin's battery.....                         | 86                  | 89                      | 1       | 11       | 1        | 13                   | 14.60          |
| Second battalion First Confederate regiment.. | 181                 | 194                     | 10      | 73       | .....    | 83                   | 42.78          |
| Fifth Georgia regiment.....                   | 317                 | 353                     | 27      | 165      | 2        | 194                  | 44.94          |
| Total.....                                    | 1286                | 1405                    | 55      | 430      | 5        | 490                  | 34.87 average. |

JOHN K. JACKSON,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL A. GRACIE.

HEADQUARTERS GRACIE'S BRIGADE, }  
In front of Chattanooga, October 2, 1863. }

To J. L. SANFORD,

*Assistant Adjutant General :*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor of herewith forwarding the report of the operations of my brigade, composed of the sixty-third regiment Tennessee volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel A. Fulkerson commanding; forty-third regiment Alabama volunteers, Colonel Y. M. Moody commanding; first battalion Alabama legion, Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Holt commanding; second battalion Alabama legion, Lieutenant Colonel B. Hall, Jr., commanding; third battalion Alabama legion, Lieutenant Colonel J. W. A. Sanford commanding, on the days of the 19th and 20th September, 1863.

Taking position on the evening of the 18th instant at Dalton's ford, on Chickamauga river; early on the morning of the 19th, the brigade formed its first line of battle, facing the enemy's works, near Lee & Gordon's mill. It was exposed to the fire of the enemy's shell, wounding Lieutenant Lane and others of the sixty-third Tennessee regiment. Further than this the brigade was not engaged in this day's fight.

On the morning of the 20th, the brigade was ordered to near Dyer's house, on the Chattanooga road, where, again forming line of battle, it again received the fire of the enemy's shell. Between four and five o'clock, P. M., orders were received to support Kershaw's brigade, posted to the left of the Chattanooga road. Word was sent to General Kershaw that the brigade was ready, and he ordered it to advance. Passing through Kershaw's command, the brigade found itself suddenly in the presence of the enemy, strongly posted behind breastworks of logs and rails, on the crest of an opposite hill. The fire of musketry, grape and canister immediately commenced, but, undaunted, the brigade scaled the precipitous heights, driving the enemy before it, and took possession of the hill. Holding these heights for nearly an hour, and ammunition becoming scarce, I informed Brigadier General Preston, commanding division, that, unless supported, the brigade could not much longer hold out. Trigg's and Kelly's brigades were ordered to my relief. Though with ammunition nearly exhausted, the brigade held its own till the scattering fire of its musketry betrayed its condition to the enemy. Trigg's and Kelly's brigades arriving, the command withdrew to replenish its empty cartridge boxes.

Early the next morning the brigade resumed the position it had so nobly won. The number of killed and wounded, shows the desperate nature of the contest; of about eighteen hundred and seventy carried into action, ninety were killed and six hundred and fifteen wounded.

Where so many distinguished themselves it would be difficult to



particularize; all nobly did their duty. I would, however, call attention to the following named officers: Lieutenant Colonel A. Fulkerson, sixty-third regiment Tennessee volunteers, who, in the absence of the colonel, commanded the regiment and led it into action; to him it owes its discipline and its efficiency. Colonel Fulkerson was severely wounded in the arm, making, with the one received at Shiloh, the second during the war. He is deserving of a much higher position.

Colonel Y. M. Moody, of the forty-fifth Alabama regiment, always at the head of his regiment on the march, maintained the same position on the field, rallying and encouraging his men.

Lieutenant Colonel J. J. Jolly, of the same regiment, though seriously wounded in the thigh, remained on the field until no longer able to walk, and then had to be carried off.

Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Holt, of the first battalion Alabama legion. This battalion sustained the heaviest loss; of two hundred and thirty-nine carried into action, one hundred and sixty-nine were killed and wounded; among the latter was Lieutenant Colonel Holt, seriously, in the knee.

Lieutenant Colonel Bolling Hall, commanding second battalion Alabama legion. It was this battalion that first gained the hill and placed its colors on the enemy's works. Its colors bear marks of over eighty bullets. Its bearer, Robert Y. Hiett, though thrice wounded and flag-staff thrice shot away, carried his charge throughout the entire fight. He deserves not only mention but promotion.

Lieutenant Colonel Hall behaved most gallantly, receiving a severe wound in the thigh.

Lieutenant Colonel John W. A. Sanford, commanding the third battalion Alabama legion, and Major McLennan, commanding the fourth battalion Alabama legion, nobly did their duty, sustaining heavy loss, both in officers and men. Captain W. B. Walton, company B, second battalion Alabama legion, was wounded in the breast, arm and shoulder, inside the enemy's works. His case deserves special mention. Assistant Surgeon James B. Luckie, of the third battalion Alabama legion, both in the field and at the hospital, was most attentive to the wounded, as indeed were all the medical officers of the command. Captain H. E. Jones, my assistant adjutant general, was most conspicuous for coolness and gallantry, carrying orders into the thickest of the fight; he was more exposed than any one in the field. Also my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant E. B. Cherry. I am happy to state that, though both these officers had their horses shot under them, both escaped unhurt. To Lieutenant J. N. Gilmer, adjutant of the Alabama legion, who, during the absence of its commander, has acted as my A. I. General, and to Messrs. George C. Jones and J. T. Harwell (both wounded) my thanks are due for services rendered. Major E. L. Hord, my quartermaster, who so completely equipped my brigade, was constantly at his post, performing his onerous duties. Major C. D. Brown, my commissary, who, by untiring energy, kept the brigade constantly supplied with cooked rations. My thanks are also due to Lieutenant A. M. MacMurphy, my efficient ordnance officer.

Among the noble dead I have to record the names of Captain James



T. Gillespie and Lieutenant S. M. Deadrick, company I, sixty-third Tennessee regiment; Captains O. H. Prince, company A, and J. A. P. Gordon, company C, Lieutenant Wm. H. Watkins company B, forty-third Alabama regiment, and Lieutenant R. H. Bibb, of the first battalion Alabama legion.

I am, Captain, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A. GRACIE, JR.,  
*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL H. D. CLAYTON.

HEADQUARTERS CLAYTON'S BRIGADE, }  
Near Chattanooga, October 3, 1863. }

Major R. A. HATCHER,

*Assistant Adjutant General Stewart's Division :*

MAJOR : The following report of the part taken by this brigade in the battle of Chickamauga on the 19th and 20th of September, 1863, is respectfully submitted :

On Thursday, the 17th day of September, this brigade, consisting of the eighteenth, thirty-sixth, and thirty-eighth Alabama regiments, commanded respectively by Colonel J. T. Holtzelaw, Colonel L. T. Woodruff, and Lieutenant Colonel A. R. Lankford, and Humpries' battery, took up the line of march from Lafayette, Walker county, Georgia, where it had been bivouacked a few days, towards the battlefield. Resting the night of the 17th, near Rock Spring, it proceeded the next day to Thedford's ford on the Chickamauga creek. Brigadier General Bate's brigade proceeding down the creek a short distance, his artillery engaged the enemy, who were then near Alexander's bridge, my brigade being exposed to the fire by which I lost one man killed. I advanced three companies from the eighteenth Alabama regiment across the creek as skirmishers, under command of Major Hundley of that regiment, and rode over myself for the purpose of making observations. Placing the three companies as pickets in a piece of woodland, I crossed my whole brigade over the creek, (the men wading,) soon after nightfall, at a point a short distance above Thedford's ford, being the first troops to cross the creek in that vicinity. I put the battery in position on the left, supported by the thirty-eighth Alabama regiment, and directed the other regiments to bivouac immediately upon the bank of the creek. On the morning of the 19th, the other brigades (Brown's and Bate's) of the division (Stewart's) having crossed the creek and formed in my rear, my brigade moved forward in line of battle at an early hour, a distance between one and two miles, until it reached a position from which the enemy could be seen upon the distant hills. The brigade, and so far as I could learn, the whole army, except upon the extreme right, where the engagement had already begun, halted until half-past one o'clock, P. M., when it was ordered to the right about one mile. Having received instructions as to the point upon which I should direct my brigade, with the further admonition that, after having more definitely located the enemy, I would have to act for myself and be governed by circumstances. I moved forward in line of battle with skirmishers in front. Having proceeded a few hundred yards through a dense undergrowth and being about to enter a cultivated field, I halted for the purpose of correcting the alignment, when Colonel John C. Carter, of the thirty-eighth Tennessee regiment, Wright's brigade, Cheatham's division, came on foot from my left in great

haste and informed me that my brigade was marching in the wrong direction, and that unless I changed my direction nearly perpendicularly to the left, my brigade would soon be in range of the enemy's small arms and artillery, which would enfilade my line; and that as I then stood, the right of the enemy was in rear of my left. I immediately changed my direction, and, marching by the left flank and filing obliquely to the left and rear, (the nature of the ground not admitting of any other movement,) had scarcely changed for the purpose of moving in the new direction, when the enemy opened fire upon us, which was promptly returned. The firing seeming to be too much at random, I passed down and up the line calling the attention of officers to the fact. I then directed my staff to inform regimental commanders that I was about to order a charge. Passing again down the line, I was informed by several officers that their ammunition was expended, and I therefore reconsidered my first intention to charge the enemy, being unable on account of the thick undergrowth to form a satisfactory idea of his strength, and withdrew for the purpose of replenishing the ammunition. This was done in good order and with little loss, the enemy having almost simultaneously ceased firing. In this engagement the brigade lost near four hundred officers and men killed and wounded. It began about half-past two o'clock and lasted one hour. The enemy was formed in a semi-circle around and over a slight elevation or hill which gave him great advantage in position, and the manner in which both ends of my line were cross-fired upon induce the opinion that we were greatly out-numbered. I again moved forward about four o'clock, the brigades of Generals Brown and Bate having successively advanced and engaged the enemy. Passing Bate's brigade, then in front, my line continued steadily forward with promptness and spirit, accompanied nearly to the Chattanooga road by the fifty-eighth Alabama regiment, Colonel Bush Jones, (which attracted my attention by the excellent order in which it moved,) and a small portion of another regiment, which I did not recognise, both of Bate's brigade. The enemy continued to retreat to and beyond the Chattanooga road, near which my brigade captured two pieces of artillery, which were brought off in the manner stated by my regimental commanders, whose reports accompany this. My brigade continued the pursuit of the enemy one-half mile beyond the road, when a staff officer reporting the enemy advancing in strong force from the right, and it also having been reported to me through my assistant adjutant general, by a staff officer, whom he did not recognize, that the enemy's cavalry had been seen in force upon the left as if preparing to advance, my brigade fell back across the road at leisure, where I halted and reformed it in connection with the portion of Gen. Bate's brigade already referred to. I take pleasure in mentioning that Captains Crenshaw and Lee, with their companies, from the fifty-eighth Alabama regiment, of Bate's brigade, accompanied mine beyond the road. They are gallant officers. In this charge my brigade captured fifty or sixty prisoners, besides the two pieces of artillery, and I have reason to believe that the loss in killed and wounded inflicted upon the enemy, to some extent, compensated for our own in

the earlier engagement. Changing the direction of my line by a front forward upon the right and the other two sides of a triangle being formed by Generals Brown and Bates, night coming on, the troops slept upon their arms within a few hundred yards of the enemy, who could be distinctly heard erecting breastworks. During the night my pickets brought in about forty prisoners, among whom were several officers of the lower grades. Early on the morning of the 20th, the brigade was moved to the right and in a position about three hundred yards from and parallel to the Chattanooga road. Here it remained until eleven o'clock, subjected the most of the time to a severe fire from the enemy's artillery, by which several men were wounded. About eleven o'clock, General Brown being in front, and General Bate on my right, the whole division advanced under a most terrible fire of grape and canister from the enemy's artillery, before which several most gallant officers fell bravely leading their men, among whom I cannot forbear to mention the name of the chivalrous and accomplished Lieutenant Colonel R. F. Juge, of the eighteenth Alabama regiment. Notwithstanding this, the brigade pressed forward through a narrow corn-field to the first pieces of artillery by the road side, when two other batteries, one in front and one upon the right, assisted by small arms, began a most murderous fire, before which all were compelled to retire. I was myself struck by a grape shot and compelled to dismount for a short time. The thirty-eighth Alabama regiment, scarcely breaking its line, fell back only a short distance. The other regiments promptly reformed near the position originally occupied by them, and moved forward to rejoin it. Gen. Brown's brigade was reformed by Colonel Cook, (General B. having been wounded,) on my left, and General Bate's brigade upon my right. My own and General Brown's brigade soon moved forward again to the road and then to the right towards the enemy, who were ascertained to be there in strong position. General Bate was formed in my rear, and in this position the command remained until about five o'clock, P. M., when I again moved my brigade forward. Soon coming upon the enemy behind breastworks, they were gallantly charged by my whole line with great spirit, the enemy fleeing in wild disorder across a large open field, upon the edge of which I ordered a halt, and the brigade continued to fire as long as the enemy could be seen. Many taking refuge in and around a hospital, (Kelly's house,) I sent forward, first the thirty-eighth, and afterwards the eighteenth Alabama regiments, which, together captured about three hundred prisoners, besides near the same number of wounded.

Thus terminated the part taken by this brigade in the battle of Chickamauga. I have omitted to say anything about the battery, because it was under the chief of artillery for the division, except a short time, during which I had no opportunity of using it. I suppose the report in regard to it will more properly be made through the chief of artillery. The brigade went into action on the 19th with thirteen hundred and fifty-two, total effective, and ninety-four officers.

It lost in the two days, twelve officers killed dead upon the field, and eighty-nine men. Thirty have since died. Thirty-four officers

and four hundred and forty-nine men were wounded and fifteen missing, making the aggregate, killed wounded and missing, six hundred and twenty-nine. This does not include many who were slightly wounded and did not leave the field. The brigade captured two pieces of artillery, three hundred and ninety-six prisoners, besides about two hundred and fifty wounded and in hospital. It collected twelve hundred and forty-nine muskets and rifles, six hundred and forty sets of accoutrements and twenty thousand cartridges. The greater portion of the guns and ammunition were carried off the field by my own ordnance wagons. I claim for my brigade that it was the first and the last in the division to encounter the enemy; the first in the army to pierce the enemy's centre and cross the Chattanooga road, which was done on Saturday evening near Brotherton's house. I conclude this report by tendering my cordial thanks to and testifying in behalf of the gallant men composing this brigade, in all whose ranks there appeared not a single coward, and to the officers, worthy of such men, leading them in every charge. My thanks are particularly due to Capt. J. M. Macon, A. A. G., Lieut. J. Vidence, assistant inspector general, and Lieutenant W. N. Knight, aid-de-camp, who rendered me prompt and valuable services throughout the whole engagement, never once shrinking from their duty. To the commanders of regiments, I also make my acknowledgments for the efficient manner in which they directed and kept their commands together, the most difficult of all duties upon the field. I also tender my thanks to Major General Stewart, who was everywhere and under all circumstances present with his command. To the gallant dead, a contemplation of whom saddens our hearts, we give our tears and a hearty "well done!" May the God of battles give us courage to emulate their heroic examples, and, when the time shall come, bravely to share their fate.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. D. CLAYTON,  
*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL W. B. BATE.

HEADQUARTERS BATE'S BRIGADE, STEWART'S DIVISION, }  
In front of Chattanooga, October 9, 1863. }

Major R. A. HATCHER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the participation had by my brigade in the late three days' battle of the Chickamauga, comprising the 18th, 19th and 20th ultimo:

Having been ordered to advance, take possession of and hold Thedford's ford, but not to bring on a general engagement unless indispensable to the accomplishment of these objects, I moved my command at once, at a double-quick, and occupied a wooded eminence commanding it, and placed my battery, the Eufala light artillery, on a cleared hill to the front and left, which overlooked the enemy, and within a few hundred yards of his position. The attack, in which the fourth Georgia battalion of sharpshooters, Major Caswell, and my artillery alone were engaged, was brisk and spirited. In the meantime, however, the entire brigade was subjected to a severe shelling from the enemy just above Alexander's bridge, and across the Chickamauga, by which one man was killed and five or six wounded. After a few well-directed shots from my battery, which Captain Oliver placed promptly in position, the enemy gave way. This was the opening fight of the battle of the Chickamauga. We bivouacked near the camp of the enemy, commanding the two fords—Thedford's and the Bend ford—where I crossed my command next morning at an early hour, and formed line of battle in rear of Brigadier Generals Brown's and Clayton's brigades, the whole under command of Major General Stewart. We moved in this order, bearing to the right, through a corn-field and woodland nearly two miles, at which point we were halted for some hours. Here my artillery was put forward to develop the enemy's position, which it did, drawing shell and round shot upon our lines, wounding three or four of my men. We were moved hence by the right flank near a point where heavy volleys of musketry were heard, and thence by the left flank in line of battle, some three or four hundred yards, and halted in the same relative position we had occupied during the earlier part of the day, mine being the rear line of battle. At three o'clock, P. M., Brigadier Generals Clayton's and Brown's brigades successively engaged the enemy. In about thirty minutes I was ordered by Major General Stewart to advance—General Clayton having withdrawn and Brown also passed to the rear. My line of battle was organized by placing Caswell's battalion of sharpshooters (fourth Georgia) on the right, and in succession from that wing was the twentieth Tennessee, Colonel T. B. Smith; thirty-seventh Georgia, Colonel A. T. Rudler; fifty-eighth Alabama, Colonel Bush. Jones, and fifteenth and thirty-seventh Tennessee, Colonel R. C. Tyler, constituting the supporting line. I had thrown



out no skirmishers. The whole command moved forward with spirit and zeal, engaging the enemy hotly before it had proceeded two hundred yards—his line extending in front and to the right and left of us. A battery in front of my extreme right played constantly and with terrible effect upon that wing, until my right pressed within less than fifty paces of it, when it was rapidly removed to prevent capture. Another revealed its hydra-head immediately in the rear of this, supported by a second line, hurling its death-dealing missiles more destructively, if possible, upon our still advancing but already thinned ranks. Having driven the first line back upon its support, a fresh battery and infantry were brought to play upon my right, which, by its advanced position had become subject to an enfilade fire, gave way, but not until Major Caswell, Colonel Smith and Colonel Rudler, the three officers commanding respectively the three right battalions, were wounded, and at least twenty-five per cent. of their numbers killed and wounded. When the right gave way the enemy sought to follow it up, and pressed his sharpshooters beyond the right flank, who, finding it well aligned and in the attitude of resistance, precipitated themselves back and out of reach. The men were easily rallied, and promptly reformed a short distance in the rear of the point to which they had advanced. In this dash the enemy captured one of my pieces and one of my couriers. It needed, however, but a moment to retake the piece, which was handsomely done. In this contest my right retook the battle flag of the fifty-first Tennessee regiment, General Wright's brigade, which but a moment before had been wrested from them by superior numbers and the flank movements of the enemy. I was rejoiced to deprive him of this trophy, so recently won, and return it to its gallant owners, hallowed as it is by its baptism in the blood of Shiloh, Perryville and Murfreesboro'. My left in the meantime, composed of the fifty-eighth Alabama, Colonel Jones, and fifteenth and thirty-seventh Tennessee regiments, (consolidated,) Colonel Tyler, not being so much harassed by the enfilade fire from the right, pressed steadily forward in fine order, driving the enemy, who contested every inch of ground with dogged and persistent obstinacy until forced beyond the Chattanooga road and several hundred yards back into the wood, thus deranging his compact lines and breaking his centre. In this charge Colonel Tyler captured three guns; and Colonel Jones participated with the thirty-eighth Alabama, Colonel Woodruff, in the capture of three; for the particulars of which I refer to their reports. It being nearly night, and having advanced so far beyond the enemy's lines as to make them liable to a flank movement, they returned from further pursuit to the point on the battle-field to which I had ordered the Eufala light artillery, and where General Clayton and I were reforming our shattered commands—Colonel Tyler bringing with him his captured guns, and Colonel Jones in such fine order as to elicit my public commendation. Owing to a movement of the enemy to our right, the front of General Clayton's command was changed by Major General Stewart to meet an expected attack from that source, and my line was left fronting the Chattanooga road. General Brown's command subsequently inter-

vened. Thus we bivouacked for the night upon the field of carnage, enveloped by the smoke of battle and surrounded by the dead of friend and foe.

Sunday morning found us in the line assumed the night previous, and, under the order of Major General Stewart, I moved my command by the right flank five or six hundred yards, and took position forward and on the right of General Brown's brigade, but in forming the line was compelled to retire the right to an angle of about forty-five degrees on account of the proximity of the enemy, located to my right oblique. Caswell's battalion of sharpshooters, under command of Lieutenant Joel Towers, Captain Benjamin Turner having been dangerously wounded the evening before, was thrown forward and deployed at right angles with my right to guard against a repetition of the movement of the previous evening, to turn that flank, to which we were liable, there being at that time no force sufficiently near to intervene. Having assumed this line of battle, I had a temporary barricade of logs hastily constructed, which gave partial protection against the shower of grape, canister and shell which continuously and most angrily saluted us. During the time that we were subjected to this ordeal several men and officers were killed and wounded, yet no restiveness or other evidence of demoralization was manifested.

At about nine, A. M., the brigade of General Deshler was placed upon my right, prolonging the line, and observing the same inclination to the rear. Soon thereafter, I received notice that General Wood's brigade was in my front, and that the general movement would be a successive one, by brigades, commencing on the right, and was ordered by Major General Stewart to follow up the movement of General Deshler. After waiting, under a severe and incessant fire of artillery, until about eleven o'clock, A. M., I communicated to General Stewart that no movement on my right had taken place, that General Deshler had been killed, and desired to know if I should longer remain inactive. About this time there was firing in my front, and soon thereafter General Wood's command came back, passing over my line. I was then ordered by Major General Stewart to advance and attack. My command received the order with a shout, and moved upon the foe at a rapid gait. The battalion of sharpshooters was ordered to maintain its position at right angles to the line, and check, if possible, if not to delay, any movement in that direction, giving the earliest notice of the same. My right, as upon the evening previous, became hotly engaged almost the instant it assumed the offensive. It was subject to a most galling fire of grape and musketry from my right oblique and front, cutting down with great fatality the twentieth Tennessee and thirty-seventh Georgia at every step, until they drove the enemy behind his defences, from which, without support, either of artillery or infantry, they were unable to dislodge him. General Deshler's brigade not having advanced, I called on Major General Cleburne, who was near my right and rear, for assistance, but he having none at his disposal which could be spared, I was compelled to retire that wing of my brigade, or sacrifice it in uselessly

fighting thrice its numbers, with the advantage of the hill and breastworks against it. I did so in good order, and without indecent haste, and aligned it first in front and then placed it in rear of our flimsy defenses. My left, the fifty-eighth Alabama, and fifteenth and thirty-seventh Tennessee, the latter under command of Lieutenant Colonel Frazier, Colonel Tyler having been wounded, being further from the enemy's line than my right, did not so soon become engaged, neither at this time subject to so severe a cross-fire, proceeded steadily on and drove the enemy behind his works, which had been constructed the night previous, on the very spot we had driven them from, and maintained their position with a dogged tenacity until the twentieth Tennessee and thirty-seventh Georgia were put in position behind the barricade, and the battalion of sharpshooters drawn in. The artillery of the enemy had ceased to play upon us, except at slow intervals, and a part of their (Tyler and Jones) commands having already returned, I despatched Lieutenant Blanchard, of my staff, to ascertain their situation, who reported that he met them returning with the balance of their commands in good order. I placed them in position and awaited orders. I am unable to give as accurate an account of my left as of my right, for the reason that the right became first engaged, and the commanders of the three right battalions having been wounded the evening previous, devolving the command on junior officers, I felt that my personal services were most needed there, which prevented my witnessing, so as to give in detail, the incidents connected with that portion of the field. I found, however, their dead in the breastworks of the enemy, which is the highest evidence that can be afforded of what they did. In this fight, my command lost thirty per cent. killed and wounded, in addition to the heavy loss of the evening before. After a short respite, Major General Stewart ordered my command, (which still held its position in the front line,) to the left, where it would be more secure from the artillery missiles of the enemy on my right. Here we remained until about five, P. M., when I was ordered to form in rear of General Clayton, and join him in taking the batteries and breastworks on our right, from which we had suffered so heavily during the day. I changed front forward on my right battalion, and, together with General Clayton's brigade, soon were over the fortifications, driving the enemy in confusion and capturing a number of prisoners. In this charge, Captain Tankersly commanded the fifteenth and thirty-seventh Tennessee, Lieutenant Colonel Frazier having been wounded. The Eufala light artillery, Capt. Oliver, had kept close to my infantry, notwithstanding the obstruction of a dense wood, took position inside the fortifications, and opened a rapid and destructive fire upon the retreating foe until the curtain of night closed upon the scene. I claim for this battery the honor of opening on Friday evening, and closing on Sunday evening, the battle of Chickamauga.

My brigade went into the fight with muskets in the hands of one-third of the men, but after the first charge Saturday evening every man was supplied with a good Enfield rifle and ammunition to suit, which was used with effect on their original owners the next day.

The dead and wounded of the enemy, over which we passed in driving them back on Saturday and Sunday, gave an earnest of the telling effect produced upon them in both day's fight. Besides arming itself with Enfield rifles, a detail from my command, under supervision of my ordnance officer, Jas. E. Rice, gathered upon the field and conveyed to the ordnance train about two thousand efficient guns. The pieces captured by Colonel Tyler, and those in which Colonel Jones participated in the capture, were taken to the rear and turned over to proper officers.

My command entered the fight, Friday evening, with one thousand and fifty-five guns, thirty provost guard, and a fair complement of officers, out of which number it lost seven officers and fifty-nine men killed, and five hundred and forty-one wounded, sixty-one of whom were officers, making a total of six hundred and seven. It is seen that every field officer in the brigade, excepting three, were wounded. For further particulars, allow me to respectfully refer to the reports of the commanders of battalions and the battery, which are herewith transmitted.

I cannot close this report without noticing the distinguished services rendered, unworthy as the tribute may be, by my field officers, Colonels Tyler, Smith, Rudler and Jones, Lieutenant Colonels Smith, Myer and Frazier, and Majors Caswell, Wall, Kendrick, Shye and Thornton; to each of whom is due the highest meed of praise. It would be invidious to make distinctions when each has played his part so well. Colonels Rudler and Smith and Major Caswell were painfully, the last two seriously, wounded, at the head of their respective commands, early in the engagement of Saturday, and compelled to retire from the field, thus devolving the command of the twentieth Tennessee on Major Shye; the thirty-seventh Georgia on Lieutenant Colonel Smith, and battalion of sharpshooters on Lieutenant Towers, each of whom did his duty gallantly and nobly throughout the conflict. Colonel Tyler, Lieutenant Colonels Myer and Frazier, Majors Wall, Kendrick and Thornton were wounded, from which they suffered considerably, (the last named officer prostrated by the explosion of a shell,) but still remained at the post of duty, bearing themselves with distinguished gallantry.

To each of my staff, Major Winchester, (who, notwithstanding his leg was badly hurt from the fall of his horse when shot Friday evening, continued in the field until the close of the fight,) Lieutenants Blanchard and Bate, I am indebted for their hearty co-operation and prompt execution of my orders, notwithstanding each was unhorsed by shots from the enemy. Also, to James E. Rice, brigade ordnance officer, I am indebted for the prompt discharge of his duties; but to none are my thanks more signally due, or more cordially awarded, than to my gallant young adjutant Captain W. C. Yancey, who while cheering and encouraging my right wing, in its desperate charge on Sunday, received a fearful wound, shattering his foot, and compelling him to retire from the field. I take pleasure, also, in adding my testimony, humble as it may be, to the hearty co-operation of the two gallant brigades of Stewart's division, General Clayton's and Brown's,

in every charge in which it was the fortune of my command to engage.

Major General Stewart will accept my thanks, as a soldier's tribute, for his polite and genial bearing, and personal assistance in the thickest of the fight, the time when I felt I much needed it. While I recount the services of the living, I cannot pass unremembered the heroic dead: the cypress must be interwoven with the laurel. The bloody field attested the sacrifice of many a noble spirit in the fierce struggle—the private soldier vying with the officer in deeds of high daring and distinguished courage. While the river of death shall float its sluggish current to the beautiful Tennessee, and the night wind chant its solemn dirges over their soldier-graves, their names, enshrined in the hearts of their countrymen, will be held in grateful remembrance as the champions and defenders of their country, who had sealed their devotion with their blood, on one of the most glorious battlefields of our revolution.

I am, Major, most respectfully your obedient servant,

WILLIAM B. BATE,

*Brigadier General.*



## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL J. C. BROWN.

HEADQUARTERS BROWN'S BRIGADE, }  
Before Chattanooga, October 13, 1863. }

Major R. A. HATCHER.

*Assistant Adjutant General Stewart's Division :*

MAJOR : I respectfully beg leave to submit the following as a report of the part performed by my command in the battle of Chickamauga on the 19th and 20th of September, 1863 :

My brigade consisted of the eighteenth Tennessee, Col. J. B. Palmer; forty-fifth Tennessee, Colonel A. Searcy; thirty-second Tennessee, Colonel Edward C. Cook; Newman's battalion, Major Tazewell W. Newman, and the twenty-sixth Tennessee, Colonel John M. Lillard, forming line from right to left in the order stated, numbering twelve hundred effective men. On the morning of the 19th, Dawson's battery of Georgia light artillery, four pieces, commanded by Lieutenant R. W. Anderson, also reported to me.

At early dawn of the 19th I crossed the Chickamauga at Ledford's ford, and formed in rear of Brigadier General Clayton, six hundred yards from that stream, Bate forming soon after in my rear. A little after sunrise we moved to the front in that order, swinging the right a little forward, until we came up with the division commanded by Brigadier General Johnson, and formed on its left. About eleven o'clock, we moved by the right flank four or five hundred yards in rear of Johnson's division, and soon afterwards eight hundred yards further, halting immediately in rear of the left of Cheatham's division, which was then hotly engaged. His left brigade, being numerically overpowered and repulsed, was relieved by Brigadier General Clayton, immediately in my front. I followed this movement closely, being so near to Clayton's line that many of my command were wounded and a few killed before I could return the fire. The front line advanced but little under the combined fire of the enemy's artillery and small arms, until General Clayton reported his ammunition exhausted.

At about two, P. M., in obedience to orders received in person from the Major General commanding, I relieved him, and encountered the enemy in an unbroken forest, rendered the more difficult of passage by the dense undergrowth which for more than two hundred yards extended along my entire line. And difficulties were still further enhanced by the smoke of battle, and the burning of the woods rendered it impossible to distinguish objects twenty paces in advance. My skirmishers encountering the enemy at an hundred yards or less, I pushed rapidly upon his lines, under a most terrific fire from all arms. There was no position from which my artillery could be served with advantage against the enemy, while two of his batteries immediately in my front, and one almost on my right flank, filled the air with grape, canister, shells and solid shot, while volley after volley of musketry, in



quick succession, swept my men by scores at every discharge. For four hundred yards, however, my line steadily advanced without faltering at any point until the enemy had been driven beyond the tangled undergrowth and his first line completely routed. A stubborn resistance from the second line, supported by artillery, posted upon a slight acclivity in our front, and pouring showers of canister upon us for a few minutes, checked our progress, but again we advanced, driving back his second line up to and beyond the summit of the ridge, until my right rested upon and my centre and left had passed the crest. Unfortunately, however, at this moment, when the rout of the second line was about being made as complete as the disaster to the first a few minutes previous, a force of the enemy appeared upon my right flank, and had well nigh turned it, compelling the eighteenth and forty-fifth Tennessee regiment to retire rapidly and in some confusion under a heavy enfilading fire. This necessitated the withdrawal of the centre and left, there being no support upon my right for a mile and none in my rear nearer than six hundred yards, and which was then not in motion.

Before reaching the summit of the ridge, many of the best and bravest officers of my command had been stricken down. Among these may be named Colonel J. B. Palmer, severely wounded; Colonel John M. Lillard, mortally wounded; Lieutenant Colonel Butler, slightly wounded; Major Joyner and Major Tazewell W. Newman, severely wounded, besides many line officers, whose services were almost indispensable to their commands.

Soon after passing the dense undergrowth mentioned above, we killed the horses and drove the gunners from five field pieces, three upon the right and two in the centre. The command passed them but the men were not permitted to fall out of ranks to remove them. Lieutenant Anderson, of Lawson's battery, removed three of them (six-pounder rifle brass pieces) to the rear, and the other two were removed by persons unknown. In addition to this, the thirty-second Tennessee, in the centre, just before being withdrawn, and while a little beyond the crest of the ridge, drove the enemy from two other field pieces and silenced their fire, but did not reach them; while the left (twenty-sixth Tennessee) drove him from a battery of the second line, but was retired before reaching it. In this action Carnes' battery of light artillery, of Wright's brigade, which had an hour or two previous been captured by the enemy, was retaken by my command.

Brigadier General Bate relieved me about 1 P. M., and I rapidly reformed and replenished my ammunition in his rear, and, when ready again to move forward, a staff officer announced that the enemy had penetrated between Bate's left and Johnson's right and that his skirmishers were moving upon my flank. I immediately changed the direction of my line at a double-quick, first sending forward a strong line of skirmishers. But finding that the enemy had either retreated or that the alarm was a false one, I reported the fact to the Major General commanding, and, in obedience to his orders, moved again to the front and, passing the commands of Bate and Clayton, formed in line beyond their left flank, almost upon the precise ground to which

I had previously pursued the enemy. Having placed my artillery in position under the personal supervision of Major General Stewart, and protected my front with skirmishers, was directed to remain and hold the position during the night. The enemy was about two hundred and fifty or three hundred yards distant in my front, but did not advance, and, save an occasional shot on the picket line and a few shells about night fall, there was no firing during that night.

Soon after daylight on Sunday morning, (the 20th.) in obedience to orders from the Major Gen. commanding, I moved by the right flank five hundred paces, inclining a little to the rear, so as to keep the crest of the ridge. In a few moments the skirmishers encountered a sharp fire from the enemy and were rapidly driven in on the right, six or eight of them being shot down. They were immediately reinforced, pushed cautiously forward, under such shelter as the ground and timber afforded, to a distance of one hundred and fifty yards, but so near was the enemy that they could not be advanced further without provoking an engagement, which I had been cautioned to avoid until our line could be established. Brigadier General Bate formed on my right, but at an angle with my line, his right retired. In a short time afterward Brigadier General Wood, of Cleburne's division, formed on my right, a little in front of Bate. We erected temporary defences of logs, rocks, brush and such other materials as could be hastily collected.

At about half past ten, A. M., the enemy commenced shelling us from two positions, one immediately in my front, about four hundred yards distant, and the other more to my right, doing but little damage.

At about eleven o'clock, when ordered to advance, I moved in line to the front, preceded by my skirmishers, who soon driving in the enemy's skirmishers, rallied upon the command. We moved at double-quick nearly three hundred yards through an open wood, the enemy retiring before us, when the brigade on my right broke in confusion. My line still advanced fifty or seventy-five yards further, and to within fifty yards of the enemy's battery and line of defences, when the right, wholly unsupported and receiving a terrible cross fire of musketry and artillery upon its flanks, broke and retired in disorder to our temporary defences. I found all efforts to rally the eighteenth and forty-fifth Tennessee, short of the defences, in vain and, indeed, impracticable, under the storm of grape and canister which prevailed upon every part of the field over which these two regiments passed. The centre and left continued steadily to advance until they crossed the Chattanooga road two or three hundred yards, and passed the battery in our front, but on the right flank of the thirty-second Tennessee regiment. But being unsupported on the right, in consequence of the retreat of the eighteenth and forty-fifth Tennessee regiments, it became necessary to retire the remainder of the line, because to have advanced further would have exposed it to the hazard of being cut off, while to have remained stationary, without shelter and under fire from a protected foe, would have sacrificed the men without obtaining any compensating advantage. I therefore ordered it to retire, which it accomplished in comparatively good order, to the original line. While

reforming my line, I received a slight wound, which disabled me from duty for the remainder of the day, and I refer to the report of Colonel Cook, upon whom the command devolved, for the conduct of the brigade in the evening.

It would give me pleasure to mention the distinguished valor exhibited by many officers and men throughout the action, but the limits of this report will not permit it, and, by implication, injustice might be done to others not named. With but few individual exceptions, the whole command did credit to the noble State which sent it into the field, and added new lustre to the cause for which it fought.

To the regimental commanders, and to Lieutenant Colonel Hall, of the forty-fifth, and Major McGuire, of the thirty-second, who respectively commanded the skirmishers, I cheerfully accord the highest meed of praise for bravery and skill. In the death of Colonel Lillard, the country lost one of her best men and bravest soldiers, and his command an officer whose place cannot be supplied. I feel deeply the loss of Colonel Palmer's services in the field, for with him on the right, the gallant Cook in the centre and the brave Lillard on the left, I felt the utmost confidence in the unvarying steadiness of my line.

I beg leave to refer you, to the accompanying reports of my regimental commanders (marked A, B, C, D and E) for detailed accounts of the part borne by those several commands.

I cannot close without expressing my obligations to the members of my staff, Captain H. J. Cherry, A. A. G.; Captain Gid. H. Low, A. A. Inspector General, and Lieutenant James T. Brown, A. D. C., for the services rendered by them during the entire engagement. More gallant men could not be found. They discharged their several duties with a degree of fidelity and intrepidity which mere language cannot reward. Major B. P. Roy, A. Q. M. General; Major B. F. Carter, A. C. S.; Dr. James F. Grant, brigade surgeon, and Lieutenant Mark S. Cockrille, ordnance officer, performed their several duties with an efficiency and zeal deserving the highest praise. I am also indebted to George B. McCallum and M. A. Carter, acting staff officers, for valuable and efficient assistance on the field throughout the battle.

I have the honor to be, Major,

Most respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. C. BROWN, *Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL B. G. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE, }  
Near Chattanooga, Tenn., October 8, 1863. }

To Major J. M. Goggin,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

MAJOR : In obedience to orders, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the action of the 20th of September:

The brigade arrived on the battle-field, at Alexander's bridge, at two o'clock, A. M., on the 20th, from western Virginia. About ten o'clock General Kershaw ordered me into line of battle on his left. Heavy firing was heard in our front, when we advanced in line parallel to the Lafayette road. Crossing the road, we found the enemy on a hill at the edge of an old field. General Kershaw at once engaged him and drove him from his position. At this time General Bushrod Johnson rode up to me and requested me to move my brigade to General Kershaw's right, as the enemy were massing in that direction and threatening a flank movement. I immediately moved to General Kershaw's right, met the enemy in force, drove in his skirmishers and found him entrenched on a hill with artillery. After engaging him and reconnoitering his position, I found it impossible to drive him from it.

I immediately informed General Longstreet of the enemy's position and strength, and received orders from him to hold my position without advancing, while he sent a division to attack him on the right and left. The attack on my left was first made, with doubtful success; the attack on my right was successful, driving the enemy from his position in great confusion. It was now dark, and no further pursuit was made.

I refer you to the accompanying lists of casualties. The brigade captured during the day over four hundred prisoners, five stands of colors and twelve hundred small arms.

On the 22d, learning that a party of the enemy was on the mountain, near the gap at Rossville, I detached thirty men from the eighteenth regiment, and the command of Captain Rateliff, company A, and Lieutenant Ottenburg, of company K, to skirmish for them. They succeeded in capturing nine officers and one hundred and twenty men, making a total of prisoners captured by the brigade, thirty-seven officers and five hundred and thirty-five men.

The individual cases of gallantry and daring among the officers and men were numerous, and where all behaved so well it is unnecessary to particularize. I cannot conclude this report without paying a tribute of admiration to the bearing and dauntless courage of Brigadier General Kershaw and his brave Palmetto boys, who have so long and so often fought side by side with the Mississippi troops. The gallant and heroic daring with which they met the shock of battle,

and irresistibly drove back the Federal hosts, merits the highest  
eulogiums and lasting gratitude of the army and the country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN G. HUMPHREYS,

*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL J. B. KERSHAW.

HEADQUARTERS KERSHAW'S BRIGADE, }  
Near Chattanooga, October 15, 1863. }

Major J. M. GOGGIN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I respectfully submit the following report of the operations of my own and Humphreys' brigade in the late battle of Chickamauga. The mention of the latter brigade is necessarily general, from the fact that General Humphreys' report did not pass through me, and, being on foot during the engagement, I could only assume a very general command. I respectfully refer to the report of General Humphreys for more particular information of his movements.

At midnight, on the 18th of September, the last of my brigade arrived at the terminus of the railroad near Catoosa station, and next morning marched, under orders from the General commanding, to Ringgold, at which place the command united with that of Brigadier General Humphreys. About nightfall orders were received from the Lieutenant General commanding to join General Hood with the command. Conducted by Colonel Dillard, we moved at once across Alexander's bridge over Chickamauga creek, and bivouacked at one o'clock, A. M., on the 20th. At nine o'clock we were ordered by the Lieutenant General commanding to a position in reserve to Hood's division, near the headquarters of the commanding General. About eleven o'clock I was ordered forward with the command to report to Major General Hood. Arriving, I found his troops engaged in front, and a line of battle just going in. General Hood directed me to form line in his rear, with my centre resting on the spot where I found him, which I suppose was his centre. Forming line, Humphreys on my left, as rapidly as possible, under fire of the enemy, and in a thick wood, I moved as directed to the front. I had been directed to occupy a line of breastworks, but, before reaching that point, a staff officer of the Lieutenant General commanding was sent to direct me to a point further in advance. I crossed the Lafayette road near a house, and, crossing the open ground, entered the woods beyond, and proceeded nearly to what I understood to be the Cove road. While passing through the last wood Lieutenant General Longstreet directed me to look out for my right flank, and I had disposed of Colonel Hennagan's eighth South Carolina, my right regiment, in such a manner as to cover me in that direction as I supposed. Having reached the point last mentioned, the firing on my right became very heavy, and a portion of General Hood's division fell back along my line. I changed front almost perpendicularly to the right on Colonel Nance's third South Carolina regiment, my left centre, which I had indicated as the directing battalion. This movement had just been accomplished when an officer of Brigadier General Law's staff informed me of the unfortunate loss of Major General Hood, and suggested



that, as senior brigadier, I should assume the direction of the two brigades of that division on my right. General Bushrod Johnson was present and called for a comparison of rank, which seemed to satisfy him. Major Cunningham, assistant inspector general, General Hood's staff, who had been sent by the General to conduct me, made the opportune suggestion that the Lieutenant General commanding be informed. Relieved by this, I requested him to direct General Humphreys to move up and support me on my right, he having been thrown in my rear by my change of front. General Johnson had undertaken to advance a brigade on my left. The enemy occupied a skirt of wood on the far side of the field around Dyer's house; his right extending into the wood beyond the field, his left crossing the Cove road. His colors were ostentatiously displayed along the lines. The last of Hood's division engaged in my front had just retired, when I ordered the advance, directing Colonel Hennagan to extend to the right and engage the enemy in that direction until Humphreys' arrival, who was then in motion. The distance across the field was about eight hundred yards, with a fence intervening about one quarter of the distance. As soon as we crossed the fence I ordered bayonets fixed, and moved at a double-quick, sending Lieutenant Colonel Gaillard's second South Carolina regiment, my extreme left, to gain the enemy's right flank. When within one hundred yards of the enemy they broke, and I opened fire upon them along the whole line, but pursued them rapidly over the first line of hills to the foot of the second, when I halted under a heavy fire of artillery on the heights, sheltering the men as much as possible, and there awaited the coming of Humphreys on my right. The seventh South Carolina, Lieutenant Colonel Bland, my right centre regiment, and the fifteenth South Carolina Lieutenant Colonel Joseph F. Gist, had obliqued to the right. Colonel Hennagan had pursued the enemy so far to the right that, when Humphreys got up, he occupied the interval between the fifteenth and eighth regiments. Colonel Oates, fifteenth Alabama, Law's brigade, came up on the right of the seventh and occupied the line between that and the fifteenth, and with those regiments advanced without orders. I had sent to the right to direct that I should be informed when Humphreys arrived.

Hearing the firing renewed on my right, I advanced the left wing, third South Carolina, James battalion and second South Carolina, and gained, in some points, the crest of the hill within a few yards of the enemy's lines. After one of the most gallant struggles I have ever witnessed, especially on the part of the third South Carolina and James' battalion, which occupied a position in front of the enemy's battery, I was compelled to fall back to a point about two hundred and fifty yards, where I determined to hold the enemy until reinforcements arrived. The enemy soon advanced, but, by a cool, deliberate fire, were quickly repulsed. General Humphreys reported that he could make no further advance on account of the heavy force of the enemy to his right. I directed him to make such disposition of his troops as would cover my right flank. About three o'clock Brigadier General Anderson's Mississippi brigade came to my support. I

described to him the situation, and suggested an attack on the right flank of the position of the enemy. He acquiesced in my view and advanced his left preparatory to the movement, covering his front with skirmishers, who immediately became engaged, and drove in those of the enemy; but, raising a shout along their lines, they advanced their line of battle at a charge, driving back Anderson's brigade in some confusion. With hearty cheers the second and third South Carolina and James' battalion engaged them with the utmost enthusiasm; Anderson's brigade promptly reformed and opened fire. His reserve regiment came up, and, in ten minutes time, the enemy was driven pell-mell. The second South Carolina and Anderson's brigade dashed after him and drove him to the top of the hill, the second South Carolina reaching the crest. The troops to his left having fallen back to their former position, Lieutenant Colonel Gaillard says in his report that "he was obliged, reluctantly, to fall back." This was an attack on the right flank of the enemy, and the line was at an oblique angle to my line. All of my regiments, except the second, though not participating in the direct attack, served to hold the enemy in position along that portion of the line, and were mostly engaged during the attack. About four o'clock Gracie's and Kelly's brigades came up and reported to me. I directed them, the former to form on my rear, and the latter to form on Gracie's left. General Hindman informed me that he was about to attack on Anderson's left, well on the right flank of the enemy, with two brigades of infantry, with artillery. Soon after, he opened heavily in that direction, but sent me word the attack was likely to fail unless a demonstration was made along the front. I determined on an attack, combining all our forces. McNair's brigade, which had come up on my right, Gracie's, Kelly's, Anderson's, my eighth, fifteenth and second regiments participating. The rest of my brigade being, in whole or in part, out of ammunition, remained in reserve at their position. This was one of the heaviest attacks of the war on a single point. The brigades went in in magnificent order; General Gracie, under my own eye, led his brigade, now for the first time under fire, most gallantly and efficiently; and, for more than an hour and a half, the struggle continued with unabated fury. It terminated at sunset—the second South Carolina being among the last to retire. At dark General Robinson, of Hood's division, came up with his brigade and picketed to my front. About ten o'clock, I think, he informed me that the enemy had left. I immediately communicated the fact to the Lieutenant General commanding. In the morning General Robinson withdrew, and I sent forward Lieutenant Colonel Gaillard to take possession of the enemy's hospital and to picket to the front. The day was spent in caring for the wounded, burying the dead and collecting arms. In the afternoon Major General McLaws resumed command of the division. My brigade was marched a few miles that night towards Chattanooga, and next day drove in the enemy to their present lines, in conjunction with Wofford's brigade, my eighth South Carolina being chiefly engaged. But few men were lost in this affair. During the first charge of the 20th my brigade captured nine pieces of artillery,

three of which were taken by the eighth South Carolina, and some half dozen caissons, with ammunition. Most of these were taken before they could open fire. My losses were heavy, as will be seen by reference to the accompanying detailed report. Among them are some of the most gallant and efficient officers and men of my command, and choice spirits of Carolina chivalry. Lieutenant Colonel Elbert Bland, seventh South Carolina, fell at the head of his regiment in the first moment of our triumph. A few moments later, Major John S. Hard, his successor, was instantly killed. The command then devolved on Captain E. J. Goggin. Captain J. M. Townsend, commanding James' battalion, was killed, leading the charge upon the enemy's stronghold. Lieutenant Colonel Hoole, eighth South Carolina regiment, was killed in the early part of the action. Lieutenant Colonel Bland was recognized generally as an officer of rare ability. His power of command, his cool, dauntless courage and self-control in battle, his excellent judgment, disciplinary skill and ability in camp, marked him as a man of a high order of military talent. His personal and social characteristics were equally noble and elevated. In him we have lost a champion worthy of our glorious cause. Major John S. Hard was a gallant and accomplished officer, and has highly distinguished himself on every battle-field in which his regiment has been engaged. Captain Townsend commanded his battalion, on this occasion, in such a manner as to elicit my commendation on the field, before he fell, and would, if he were living, have been here mentioned with high distinction. Lieutenant Colonel Hoole was an officer of much merit, but has been prevented by protracted illness from attaining that distinction he might have achieved with his gallant regiment. He was much beloved for his personal qualities, and his loss will be deeply deplored by his comrades. For particular mention of other brave spirits who have fallen, I respectfully refer to the accompanying reports of regimental commanders. My pride and satisfaction with the conduct of my entire brigade, in the engagement, could not be more complete. Officers and men, each acted as if impressed with the feeling that the destinies of the country depended upon his own faithful, earnest and intelligent discharge of duty. I shall not attempt to particularize.

The only member of my staff with me during the whole day was Captain C. R. Holmes, A. A. G. To him, as on all previous occasions of this character, I am greatly indebted for the most valuable and gallant services. He represented me on the right wing of my brigade. I detailed Second Lieutenant H. L. Tarley to act as aid-de camp, and cannot too highly commend his gallantry, activity and efficiency under the most trying circumstances. As an evidence of my appreciation, I detailed him to accompany the captured flags to Richmond. Lieutenant W. M. Dwight, A. A. and I. G., joined me in the afternoon and aided me with his usual efficiency.

In the absence of horses for myself and staff, I detailed one man from each regiment as orderlies to communicate with the command. All of them rendered efficient service, and two, M. F. Milan, company A, third South Carolina regiment, and Rawlins Rivers, company I,

second South Carolina regiment, were killed in the discharge of that duty. Rivers had attracted my notice by gallant and intelligent services in the same position at the battle of Fredericksburg.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. KERSHAW,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL C. C. WILSON, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS WILSON'S BRIGADE, }  
Missionary Ridge, Oct. 1, 1863. }

Captain JOSEPH B. CUMMING,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

CAPTAIN: It was not until one o'clock on Friday night, the 18th instant, that my brigade succeeded in crossing Shaelan ford, on the Chickamauga river, the road having been blocked up by the wagons and artillery trains of the brigades and divisions which preceded us on the march. We bivouacked on the west side of the river that night, prepared to follow our division on the next day's march. The ordnance train of the division not having succeeded in crossing Friday night, I was directed by special order from division headquarters to remain with the train, holding my brigade as a guard until it had crossed, and then to rejoin the division. I immediately detached the thirtieth Georgia regiment and sent it to the ford as a guard to that portion of the train that had not crossed, and to furnish fatigue parties to help forward disabled or stalled wagons, having first reconnoitred the position and thrown out two companies on each road leading to the ford to guard against surprise by the enemy. About nine o'clock, A. M., the whole train had crossed and was put in motion, with the twenty-fifth Georgia and a section of the battery ahead as an advance guard and the rest of the brigade in rear. In this order we had marched about two miles from the ford, to the intersection of the road from Alexander's bridge with the road to Lee & Gordon's mill, when I received, from one of General Forrest's staff, an order from division headquarters, directing me to go with General Forrest and obey his orders. The train was thereupon sent forward alone, and the brigade filed to the right on the Alexander's bridge road, conducted by the staff officer who had brought me the order. One company, however, of the thirtieth Georgia regiment, which had been thrown out as skirmishers from the ford, had not yet overtaken the regiment, and did not until the fight was over, but fell in on the left of General Ector's brigade, and behaved gallantly, as I am informed, during the engagement of that day. This was company B. Captain Hitch. Riding forward with General Forrest, he informed me that the enemy, in considerable force, were engaging his cavalry to the right and front of my position, and he directed me to select a position and form line of battle on the left of the road. I formed my line on the ridge of the long hill which, from the northeast, overlooks and commands the plain where our first encounter with the enemy took place, posting the artillery by sections on the most elevated positions and opposite to the intervals between regiments. We had not remained in this position long when an order from General Forrest informed me that the enemy were pressing him sorely in front, and



directed me to move upon his left. This order was promptly executed, the brigade moving off by the right flank, and filing up the Alexander's bridge road about three-eighths of a mile was formed forward into line. The line was scarcely formed when firing commenced on the left. The order was given to move forward at once, and the line stepped off with the enthusiasm of high hope and patriotic determination and the precision and accuracy which only disciplined and instructed troops can attain. The enemy's skirmishers were encountered at once and driven in on their first line, which opened upon us a terrific fire. Steadily the line moved forward and poured into the enemy's ranks a well-directed fire, which very soon caused his line to break and fly from the field in confusion, leaving dead and wounded covering the field over which we marched. The command still pressed forward on the retreating foe, and soon encountered a second line of battle, which seemed to have been drawn up three or four hundred yards in rear of the first; then again the contest was renewed with great energy, and the position disputed with stubborn resolve. The firing at this point was terrific, and many brave officers and men fell while gallantly discharging their duties. For a time our line wavered, and the overwhelming force of the enemy seemed determined to drive us from the field. Rallying from the shock of this new encounter, our line again moved forward with determination and energy, and finally succeeded in driving back the enemy's second line in confusion to his breastworks, which had been erected of fallen trees about four hundred yards in rear of his second line. At this time an order from General Forrest directed me not to press the enemy further, but in the meantime our line had come within range of the breastworks, from which a constant and galling fire was poured into our ranks, and a heavy force was moving around our left flank. I at once despatched one of my staff to General Ector, who I knew was a short distance in our rear, with a request that he would move up on my left. But before my messenger reached him, General Forrest had ordered his brigade to the right—a position held up to that time by the cavalry. In the meantime the enemy, having turned my left, poured an enfilading fire into our thinned ranks, and compelled the whole left of the line to fall back, including the thirtieth Georgia regiment, which occupied the centre. Observing this movement, and pressed by a galling fire in front, the right of the line, made up of the twenty-fifth and twenty-ninth Georgia regiments, began slowly to fall back. This movement having been promptly arrested, I passed towards the left with a view of rallying the rest of the brigade, and succeeded in restoring some order to the thinned ranks of the thirtieth Georgia, when I discovered the enemy still pressing around the left towards an open field, through which our line had advanced. I thereupon directed Lieutenant Colonel Boynton, then commanding the thirtieth Georgia, to fall back a little further to a wood on the left of the road, intending to reform on it. While this was being done, General Ector's brigade went in on the right of my line and the twenty-fifth and twenty-ninth Georgia regiments went with this brigade again into the action, and remained with it during the fight of



that brigade, and the sharpshooters and Louisiana battalion were rallied and reformed in rear of other troops of our division, which at this time had come up to our relief. Having been reformed and our cartridge-boxes replenished, the brigade took up its position again, remained on the battle field that night, and moved with the division next day.

During the action of this day, (Sunday, the 29th instant,) it was not our fortune to be much engaged. Our ranks had been much reduced, and we mustered not over four hundred and fifty aggregate. About twelve, M., the right of our line having advanced some distance, we engaged the enemy in a thick wood, about half a mile from the Chattanooga road, in connection with General Gist's brigade, which was in front of us, and General Ector's, which was in our rear. At this time the three brigades were occupying the same line nearly, and this arrangement necessarily resulted in some confusion. After a very unsatisfactory fight, lasting probably forty-five minutes, and in which we lost some valuable officers and a few men, we were ordered to fall back and reform. This was accomplished, the line falling back a few hundred yards, where we remained until about five, P. M., when the line was reformed, with General Gist's brigade on the right, General Ector's on the left and mine in the centre—the division being under command of Gen. Gist—and advanced to the last charge, meeting, however, no enemy, and having the satisfaction of taking up our bivouac upon the field from which our enemy had been driven in confusion. This brigade entered the fight with an effective force of twelve hundred men, and lost, during the two days' fighting, ninety-nine killed, four hundred and twenty-six wounded and eighty missing. Of the number missing, many were wounded and fell into the enemy's hands, but were recaptured with the field hospital he had established near the battle-field. Of the number wounded several have since died, among them Lieutenant Colonel A. J. Williams, commanding twenty-fifth Georgia regiment, a brave and gallant officer, to whom much praise is due for his conduct on the field. He fell at his post and in the efficient discharge of his duties.

A list of killed and wounded officers having been furnished, I deem it unnecessary to embody it in this report. I may be permitted to say, however, that among them were numbered the bravest, the truest and the best. Where all behaved so well, it would be invidious to draw distinctions. I know of no instance in which any officer shrunk from the discharge of his duty, and in mentioning a few who fell under my own observation I do not mean to disparage those who did not. I notice, as worthy of commendation, the cases of Captains A. W. and A. H. Smith, of the twenty-fifth Georgia regiment, and Captain Spencer, of the twenty-ninth Georgia regiment, Lieutenants Alfred Bryant and A. B. Saller, of the first battalion Georgia sharpshooters, who, notwithstanding they were wounded, remained with their commands through the fight and discharged their duties to the end. I respectfully ask the favorable consideration of the Major General commanding to the cases of my assistant adjutant and inspector general, First Lieutenant Robert Wayne, and of my acting assistant adjutant

general, First Lieutenant R. E. Lester. The first was seriously wounded in the leg whilst in the discharge of his duties, and Lieutenant Lester was wounded in the head and abdomen, under the same circumstances, and had two horses killed under him. They were both conspicuous in the fight, riding fearlessly along the line in the thickest of it, distributing orders, rallying the men when broken, and setting an example to all of courage and devotion, and of a cool and intelligent discharge of duty under the most trying circumstances, worthy of all commendation. I acknowledge myself greatly indebted to them. I respectfully ask their promotion to the rank of captains in the department in which they are serving. I also take great pleasure in noticing the cases of First Lieutenant G. R. McRae, adjutant of the twenty-ninth Georgia regiment, who was conspicuous in the fight, encouraging his men and rallying them when broken, and who, being left senior officer after the first engagement, assumed command of the broken remnants, and gallantly led them in again on the left of General Ector's brigade.

During the first day's fighting many prisoners were taken, but they were turned over at once and no account kept of them, and many were sent to the rear without a guard, not having men to spare for that purpose. One section of my battery alone was able to get into position, and did some service. The enemy had no artillery in our front, and we took no pieces. The field was not such as to render artillery useful.

In addition to the officers above named who, being wounded, remained on the field, I will add the name of First Lieutenant A. H. Harrell, company H, twenty-ninth Georgia regiment. About one o'clock Sunday afternoon private Thomas Henderson, company A, fourth Louisiana battalion, was captured by the enemy—he being in advance of his battalion—but when the rout of the enemy commenced made his escape from his guard, and, seizing a rifle, on his return to our lines captured and brought in six of the enemy as prisoners, delivering them to the guard of Brigadier General Bate.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. WILSON,  
*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL A. J. VAUGHAN, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS IN FIELD, }  
*In front of Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 4, 1863.* }

Major J. G. PORTER,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I beg leave to submit the following report of the action of General Preston Smith's brigade, (composed of the one hundred and fifty-fourth and thirteenth Tennessee regiments, under command of Colonel A. J. Vaughan, Jr; twelfth and forty-seventh Tennessee regiments, under command of Colonel W. M. Watkins; eleventh Tennessee regiment, under command of Colonel G. W. Gordon; twenty-ninth Tennessee regiment, under command of Colonel Horace Rice; Scott's battery, under command of First Lieutenant John H. Marsh; and a battalion of sharpshooters, composed of two companies from the twelfth and forty-seventh Tennessee regiments, one from the one hundred and fifty-fourth Tennessee regiment, one from the eleventh and one from the twenty-ninth Tennessee regiments, under command of Major J. W. Dawson, one hundred and fifty-fourth senior Tennessee regiment, and Major William Green, eleventh Tennessee regiment.) Cheatham's division, Polk's corps, army of Tennessee, in the battle of Chickamauga and the occupation of Missionary ridge, on the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd days of September, 1863:

On the evening of the 17th September orders were received to move General Preston Smith's brigade out on the Ringgold road to the intersection of Lee & Gordon's mill road, thence to Rock Spring church, where we bivouacked for the night in line of battle.

Early on the morning of the 18th of September we were ordered to move forward in the direction of the ford below Lee & Gordon's mill, on West Chickamauga. Our advance during the day was very slow, having to wait for Buckner's corps to pass to the front and effect a crossing of the creek, which they succeeded in doing about dark, after heavy skirmishing. We bivouacked at night, in line of battle, half a mile south of West Chickamauga.

Early on the morning of the 19th September the brigade moved forward, crossed the creek, and formed in line of battle on the left of Jackson's brigade. As soon as the division effected a crossing, we moved forward near a mile, and formed line in similar order in rear of Buckner's corps. We remained in this position a short time, when we received orders to move by the right flank, in double-quick, to the support of General Walker, who for some time had been actively engaging the enemy. On arriving at the scene of action, we found General Walker stoutly resisted, and his command much exhausted from long and continued action. We were ordered to form line immediately. Formed, as before, on left of General Jackson's brigade. As soon as formed, we were ordered to advance and engage

the enemy. We advanced but a short distance before we met the enemy, advancing. We engaged him at once and furiously drove him before us six or eight hundred yards, forcing him to take shelter behind the breastworks from which he had advanced in the morning. We moved steadily forward until within musket-range of their works, and, notwithstanding we were subjected to a severe and concentrated fire both of musketry and artillery, the brigade kept up a steady and determined fire until the supply of ammunition was nearly exhausted. General Smith, being apprised of this, immediately informed General Cheatham of the fact, at the same time assuring him he was able to hold the position until he could forward a brigade to his relief. General Strahl was ordered forward. As soon as he occupied General Smith's position, General Smith withdrew his brigade, moved some four hundred yards to the rear, and reformed his line.

During this engagement, beginning at about twelve o'clock, M., and closing about two o'clock, P. M., the officers and men of the different regiments of the brigade acted with conspicuous gallantry, discharging every duty and responding to every order, with commendable promptness.

Since all acted so well, I cannot particularise. Scott's battery, under First Lieutenant John H. Marsh, advanced with the brigade, and took position, as ordered, under a heavy and destructive fire of the enemy, so much so, that a number of men and horses were disabled before the battery was placed for action. Immediately a rapid and well directed fire was opened upon the enemy, with telling effect upon his ranks. This fire was vigorously maintained until the brigade was relieved and ordered to the rear. It was in this engagement that First Lieutenant John H. Marsh was severely, if not dangerously, wounded, while gallantly encouraging his men and inspiring them by his own distinguished coolness and heroism. The command then devolved upon Second Lieutenant A. T. Watson, who, throughout the engagement, acted with commendable bravery.

In bringing on the engagement and in driving the enemy the battalion of sharpshooters did efficient service, both officers and men acting well their parts.

After supplying the command with ammunition and taking position as ordered, it was found that Scott's battery was so disabled, by the loss of men and horses, as to be unfit for action during the evening. Turner's battery, of Maney's brigade, was ordered to report to General Smith. It was placed on the right of the brigade, and did effective service in checking the second advance of the enemy. Throughout the evening Lieutenant Turner poured a murderous fire into the enemy's ranks, his coolness and disregard of danger eliciting the highest praise from the officers and men of the entire brigade. It was while supporting this battery that Major Dawson, one hundred and fifty-fourth senior Tennessee regiment, in command of the battalion of sharpshooters, was severely wounded in the groin.

The enemy, finding it impossible to drive us from our position, sullenly retired out of range, and comparative quiet prevailed along our line until six o'clock, P. M., when General Smith, being informed

that a night attack was determined upon, was ordered, so soon as General Deshler's brigade of Major General Cleburne's division should advance to his front, to move his brigade forward as General Deshler's support. After having advanced in this order some two hundred yards, the engagement was commenced on the right and extended to Deshler's brigade in our front. Advancing a short distance further, it being quite dark, a portion of this brigade became somewhat confused and fell back on our line. General Smith ordered them to move forward, which order was obeyed. We continued to advance but a short distance, when they a second time fell back on our line and were again urged forward by General Smith. Instead of moving direct to the front, they obliqued to the left and uncovered the two right regiments of General Smith's brigade. In the darkness, General Smith did not know this, and a third time coming upon troops at a halt in his immediate front, presuming them to belong to General Deshler's command, he and Captain Thomas H. King, volunteer aid, rode to the front to ascertain the delay. On riding up to the line (which proved to be the enemy) and asking who was in command of these troops, he was discovered to be a Confederate officer, and he and Captain King were both killed. I at the same time was in front of my regiments, accompanied by Captain Donelson, acting assistant adjutant general to General Smith, to know the cause of the delay of what I supposed to be a portion of General Deshler's command. Riding up to a soldier, I asked him to what command he belonged. Discovering that I was a Confederate officer, he fired at me, missing me, but killing Captain Donelson, who was by my side. I immediately ordered some files from the twelfth Tennessee regiment to shoot him, which they did, killing him instantly. The line in front, seeing their situation, cried out, "Don't shoot; we surrender." I then rode forward, and found them in the act of grounding their arms. Discovering a stand of colors in my front, I asked, "Who has these colors?" The reply was, "The color-bearer." I then said, "S. r. to what command do you belong?" He replied, "To the seventy-seventh Pennsylvania regiment." I then took from him the stand of colors and handed them to Captain Carbell, forty-seventh Tennessee regiment, and ordered him to turn them, with the prisoners captured, about three hundred in number, over to General Cheatham.

The reason that I have been thus explicit in detailing the facts connected with the capture of the stand of colors, they were claimed to have been captured by General Deshler's command.

Being informed that General Smith had been killed, I assumed the command of the brigade, the command of my regiment devolving upon Lieutenant Colonel R. W. Pittman.

After this there was no more firing of consequence. Orders were received from Major General Cheatham to bivouac in line of battle for the remainder of the night.

On the 20th my brigade was not actively engaged, being held as a reserve. We were, however, subjected to a heavy artillery fire, killing and wounding several men. Late in the evening we were ordered to the extreme right, where we remained until the morning of the



21st September. I then ordered the battalion of sharpshooters, under command of Majors Green and Pearl, to deploy (so as to cover the front of my brigade) and move as far as the top of Missionary ridge, or discover the whereabouts of the enemy. In a short time, they reported the enemy in the valley around Chattanooga.

At three o'clock, P. M., we were ordered to the extreme right of the line, and bivouacked for the night near Byrd's mill.

On the morning of the 22nd of September we moved, on the Shal-lon ford road, in the direction of Chattanooga. When we arrived at the foot of Missionary ridge, we formed line of battle on the left of General Maney's brigade and advanced to the top of the ridge, meeting with but little resistance, though the enemy were strongly posted.

Accompanying this will be found the reports of the several regimental commanders, Major William Green, commanding battalion of sharpshooters, and Lieutenant A. T. Watson, commanding Scott's battery, of the action taken by their respective commands, to which I invite your attention. A list of the casualties of the brigade has already been forwarded to headquarters.

I cannot close this report without alluding to the very efficient service rendered me by Captain J. W. Harris, inspector general on General Smith's staff, in carrying and executing all orders in the most prompt manner possible. Also, Captain Emmett Cockrill, volunteer aid to General Smith, deserves especial notice for the manner in which he discharged every duty assigned him. Thanks are due Major King, brigade commissary, for keeping the troops so well provided with rations during the campaign from Lafayette, Georgia, to this place. Also, to Major Beecher, brigade quartermaster, for the efficient manner in which our wounded were carried from the field. Thanks are also due Captain Henry K. Beatty, brigade ordnance officer, for the prompt and efficient manner in which the command was kept constantly supplied with ammunition. Also, special credit is due Lieutenant J. W. Cochran, brigade provost marshal, for the promptness and efficiency displayed in discharging the duties of his office.

Especial attention is called to Colonel Rice's report in reference to the gallant conduct of E. H. Clayton, courier to General Smith.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. VAUGHAN, JR.,  
Colonel commanding.



## REPORT OF COLONEL C. A. SUGG, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS GREGG'S BRIGADE, }  
*Top of Mission Ridge, Sept. 26, 1863.* }

I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by Gregg's brigade in the actions of Friday, Saturday and Sunday, (18th, 19th and 20th instants,) while under my command:

Shortly after five o'clock, in the afternoon of Saturday, (19th,) the brigade having then been hotly engaged for several hours, I was notified that General Gregg had been disabled by a severe wound in the neck, and had been borne from the field, and that the command in consequence devolved upon me. I accordingly reported to General Johnson for orders. The brigade having fallen back, defensive positions were made for the night by posting pickets in advance and constructing breastworks of logs.

At seven o'clock, the following morning, (Sunday, 20th,) I was ordered to take position in rear of McNair's and Johnson's brigades, in reserve. About eleven, A. M., the division being ordered forward, we advanced some eight hundred yards, under heavy fire, when the front line first wavered, then halted, in considerable confusion. It soon rallied, but, after advancing about two hundred yards farther, halted a second time, in the face of a heavy force of the enemy, strongly posted behind breastworks of rails and fallen timber. My command suffering greatly in its position in rear, I now proposed to General McNair to permit me to pass to the front. He consented, and my command was ordered forward and succeeded in dislodging the enemy from his position, though not without heavy loss. Major C. W. Robertson, commanding fiftieth Tennessee, (Lieutenant Colonel Beaumont having been killed the day before,) was here severely wounded in the groin, while gallantly leading his regiment. Up to this point all the fighting had taken place in thick cover. Steadily advancing, the brigade now emerged from the timber into a cleared field of considerable extent, gradually sloping down from the further edge, where the enemy had posted a battery of eight guns. This battery I was ordered to flank, leaving it on my right. Across the open field the brigade charged and, supported on the right flank, captured the guns. Four of these pieces, rifled guns of the Ward pattern and three-inch calibre, belonging to the first Missouri (Federal) battery, are now appropriately in possession of the first Missouri (Bledsoe's) battery, belonging to this brigade. A thickly wooded ridge in rear of the captured battery, and commanding the position, was the next point of attack. Ordered by General Johnson, in person, to take this position, the brigade advanced to the assault, again without support on the right. The ridge was carried, and my battery, from the nature of the ground, being unable to keep up, the brigade was halted upon its crest and disposed in such form as to sweep with its fire the slopes and hollows on both sides of the ridge and hold the position until

the artillery could come to our support. So soon as the guns arrived, they were placed in position to open fire upon the enemy's battery of five pieces, covering the retreat of an ammunition train. In a few minutes the enemy's cannoneers abandoned their guns; the teamsters were seen cutting loose the horses from their traces, and the whole took to flight, leaving both battery and train in our possession. Later in the day, the contents of the captured wagons served to replenish the exhausted boxes of the brigade. Finding the position commanded by still another ridge in front, but bearing to the right, the brigade was ordered forward, the position in front taken, and my battery of four guns posted so as to secure its possession, while skirmishers were thrown out to ascertain the position and force of the enemy. He was found to be in heavy force on the same ridge on my right. Adjusting my line accordingly, the brigade again moved forward, charging the enemy in gallant style, under a heavy fire. Here Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Tillman, commanding fourth Tennessee, was wounded in the shoulder, while nobly leading his men. The enemy was driven back, but rallied and returned to the attack in greater force, contesting the ground with unusual obstinacy. For the want of artillery support, the right wing of the brigade fell back beyond the battery, left in the position already described, but was enabled to reform under cover of the steady fire and unbroken front maintained by the third and fiftieth Tennessee, (Colonel C. H. Walker,) and seventh Texas, (Major R. M. Vanzandt,) by whom the guns were saved from capture, and to whom the right wing was indebted for an opportunity to recover from the temporary confusion into which it had been thrown. This being quickly effected, and, perceiving the impossibility of holding the position, if captured, without the aid of artillery, I ordered two guns to be moved to my right, and believing that the teams would be destroyed if the horses were attacked, I ordered them to be moved up the hill by hand. The brigade was again ordered to charge, the enemy was driven from the ridge and into the hollow beyond, but the guns pushed forward and opened upon him with such telling effect that he made no further effort to recover his lost ground. It was now five o'clock in the afternoon, the brigade having advanced, since eleven o'clock in the morning, fully three miles, describing, in its onward and upward course, through timber and clearing, over hilltops and ridges, a line approaching in shape very nearly the fourth of a circle. Finding my ammunition exhausted, a supply was ordered and obtained from the train previously captured from the enemy. Trigg's brigade arriving on the ground at this juncture, I thankfully accepted the proposition of the commanding officer to form line in my front, and ordered the brigade to fall back beyond the crest of the hill and rest for the night; and, no interruption being apprehended from the beaten enemy, the brigade slept on the ground which it had so bravely won.

On the following day, more than one hundred of the enemy's dead were counted on the hillside and in the hollow immediately in front of the brigade. Nor was the series of brilliant successes, thus briefly described, won without heavy loss on our own part, though one greatly inferior to that of the enemy, and inferior, too, to the loss of the

brigade on the previous day (Saturday). Where all, both officers and men did so well, it is difficult, as it would be unfair, to discriminate further than has been already done in this report. At the same time, I should be doing less than justice if I were to omit to make special mention of the very efficient and important service rendered, throughout the day and in every stage of the conflict, by Bledsoe's battery, Lieutenant R. L. Wood commanding.

A statement of the number of men engaged, of the casualties sustained, and of the captures made by the brigade, so far as an estimate of them can now be obtained, will be found subjoined.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. SUGG,  
Colonel commanding Brigade.

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*AGGREGATE present in Gregg's Brigade, according to Field Return of September 19, 1863.*

| Command.                        |   | Aggregate present. |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Forty-first Tennessee regiment, | - | 325                |
| Fiftieth " "                    | - | 104                |
| Seventh Texas " "               | - | 177                |
| Third Tennessee " "             | - | 274                |
| Tenth " "                       | - | 190                |
| Thirtieth " "                   | - | 185                |
| First Tennessee battalion,      | - | 83                 |
|                                 |   | <hr/>              |
| Total infantry,                 | - | 1,337              |
| Battery, -                      | - | 84                 |
| Brigade staff, -                | - | 4                  |
|                                 |   | <hr/>              |
|                                 |   | 1,425              |

The foregoing represents the number of officers and men taken into action on the morning of Saturday, 19th. No field return was called for or made on the morning of Sunday, 20th.

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*AGGREGATE loss in Officers and Men Killed, Wounded and Missing in Gregg's Brigade, in the actions of September 18th, 19th and 20th*

Officers, non-commissioned officers and privates killed, one hundred and seven; wounded, four hundred and seventy-five, missing, seventy. total, six hundred and fifty-two.

*LIST OF CAPTURES made by Gregg's Brigade in the actions of September 18th, 19th and 20th.*

| Captures.   | . | . | . | Amount.          |
|-------------|---|---|---|------------------|
| Prisoners,  | - | - | - | No estimate.     |
| Small arms, | - | - | - | No estimate.     |
| Colors,     | - | - | - | None             |
| Artillery,  | - | - | - | Thirteen pieces. |
| Wagons,     | - | - | - | Five.            |
| Ambulances, | - | - | - | One.             |

A number of prisoners were taken by the brigade on each day and sent to the rear, but it is impossible to furnish an estimate which would be even an approximation to the real number, therefore none is attempted. Large quantities of arms were gathered on the ground over which the brigade passed and piled for removal, but, before they could be counted, the brigade was ordered to change position, being transferred from General Johnson's to General Walker's division. The pieces of artillery, (thirteen in number,) in regard to the capture of which it is understood that rival claims have been advanced, were not only captured by this brigade, but duly taken possession of at the time by a detail made for the purpose, under charge of Lieutenant Fletcher Beaumont, adjutant of the fiftieth Tennessee regiment.

STATEMENT OF ADJUTANT BEAUMONT IN REGARD TO  
THE CAPTURE OF NINE PIECES OF ARTILLERY FROM  
THE ENEMY ON BATTLE-FIELD OF CHICKAMAUGA.

IN THE FIELD, October 9, 1863.

Colonel Sugg :

SIR : Having been requested to furnish a written statement of the facts regarding the capture from the enemy on the battle-field of Chickamauga, September 20, 1863, by General Gregg's brigade of nine pieces of artillery, which I am enabled to do by reason of having been your aid-de-camp on that day, and, as such, having sent the pieces to the rear for safety in the event of an attempt to retake them, I beg leave to submit the following, which will be endorsed by members of the forty-first Tennessee regiment of this brigade, who were witnesses to the statement herein set forth :

Preparatory to advancing upon the enemy, our division, consisting of Generals Johnson's, McNair's, and Gregg's brigades, the whole commanded by Brigadier General Johnson, was formed by placing Johnson's brigade on the left, McNair's on the right, with two regiments and a battalion, from our brigade, on the extreme left—the remainder of the latter following as a support about one hundred yards in rear of the front line. In this order the division moved off. Having gone some distance, McNair's brigade, immediately in our front, halted, the enemy maintaining a brisk fire on the whole line, when, by consent of its commander, our brigade passed over it and gained the front line. Soon after we emerged into an open field, on the opposite side of which, to our right and on an eminence commanding the field, was posted the enemy's artillery. Seeing a rich prize within its grasp, our brigade marched forward until it had gained the flank; then wheeling to the right, went up and possessed it, several of the pieces having been silenced and abandoned before the brigade had commenced to wheel. On reaching the guns we had so nobly won, as your aid, I proceeded to take possession and have them removed to the rear for safety against recapture. For this purpose I made a detail of the men nearest to me, and, when I could find them, such wounded as were able to ride horseback, and Federal prisoners, with a guard. Every gun and its accompaniments which fell into our hands were saved. I would also mention that instead of eight (8) guns, as you estimate in your official report, there were nine (9) to my knowledge, having seen that number myself after the fighting had subsided in the evening of that day. Too eager to get them safely to the rear, I did not stop to ascertain the exact number, supposing that I would have an opportunity to settle that point afterwards, as I directed them to be taken to the hill our brigade was posted on before the advance began.

I am, sir, respectfully, yours,

FLETCHER BEAUMONT,  
*Adjutant Fiftyeth Tennessee regiment.*

We fully concur in the above statement.

W. G. Vaneleave, company II, forty-first Tennessee regiment.

C. S. Haughton, " " " " "

B. W. Smith, fourth sergeant, " " "

A. P. N. Bells, company II, " " "

A. J. Park, " " " " "

Levi Osburn, " " " " "

Willy Osburn, " " " " "

H. M. Fowler, " " " " "

The above names are members of company II, forty-first Tennessee regiment, and authorized me to sign their names.

W. M. COOPER,

*First Lieutenant Co. II, 41st Tennessee regiment.*



## REPORT OF COLONEL D. COLEMAN, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS McNAIR'S BRIGADE. }  
*Camp near Ringgold, Georgia, Sept. 24, 1863.* }

Captain BLAKEMORE, *A. A. A. General:*

CAPTAIN: In obedience to Brigadier General Johnson's order of yesterday, I have the honor to report the part taken by this brigade in the late battles:

Shortly before daylight on the 18th instant, this brigade, (Brigadier General E. McNair,) in company with that of Brigadier General B. R. Johnson, who commanded the whole force, left Catoosa station, on the Chickamauga river, and marched, by way of Ringgold, by the Lafayette road to the intersection of the Graysville and Reed's bridge roads. Here, cannonading and sharp skirmishing being heard on the left, line of battle was formed, with Johnson's brigade on the right, and the force swept steadily in this order, with skirmishers in front, across the country to the left, the enemy giving away with scarcely any resistance, to the Reed's bridge road, near the bridge. Thence marched, hearing heavy musketry firing in front, to within one and a half miles of Lee's mill, on the Chattanooga and Lee's mill road, where it encamped in line for the night some time after dark.

On the 19th, just about eight, A. M., the battle having begun on the right, the brigade was placed in position in rear of Gregg's brigade, with the artillery, Captain Culpeper's three pieces, and the thirty-ninth North Carolina regiment, Colonel Coleman, and twenty-fifth Arkansas, Lieutenant Colonel Hupstelder. Colonel Coleman, commanding both regiments, being ordered to support General Gregg, moved rapidly forward and, getting near Gregg's brigade, (then under a terrific fire,) charged impetuously, passing over the left of Gregg's brigade, with loud cheers, and drove the enemy in rapid flight through the thick woods, across the Chattanooga road, past the small house, a hundred yards on and in to the corn-fields beyond, making a distance altogether of about three-quarters of a mile. In this last advance Lieutenant Colonel Hupstelder fell, wounded with five balls. Though the enemy, to whom we had been opposed in front, were in flight, broken and in confusion, having sustained a heavy loss in killed, the two regiments finding their tired and weakened line exposed to a fatal flanking fire, especially on the left, unsupported on account of the rapidity of their advance, with an enemy's battery near on the left and a strong enemy's reinforcement approaching, and our ammunition nearly exhausted, the impracticability of longer holding this advanced and exposed position was immediately manifest and the force was ordered back to the woods. Here they were reformed and, a fresh line having passed to relieve them, were marched back to nearly their original position to await ammunition, where they were joined by the

rest of the brigade, which finally moved forward to the position in line where it was encamped for the night, between Johnson's brigade, on the right, and Hindman's division, on the left.

The first, second and fourth Arkansas battalions, (consolidated,) Major Ross, all under the immediate command of General McNair, were ordered forward soon after the advance of the thirty-ninth North Carolina and twenty-fifth Arkansas, and charged on the right of the course taken by the latter regiments and drove the enemy, in successive charges, beyond the Chattanooga road. Here, on the withdrawal of the thirty-ninth and twenty-fifth, being exposed to a heavy flank fire on the left, besides that in front, and the ammunition beginning to fail, they rejoined the other two regiments.

The artillery, Captain Culpeper commanding, supported the advance of the brigade so long as it was safe to fire, and then, the undergrowth being too thick to advance, remained in their position the remainder of the day.

On the morning of the 20th, the brigade was placed in line between Stewart's division, on the right, and Hindman's, on the left, with a slight barricade of branches and small dead wood in front. Here, about half past nine, A. M., the line repulsed an advance of the enemy. In a few minutes after, the brigade, advancing with the rest of the line, drove the enemy steadily and rapidly back, passing over two successive lines of temporary breastworks, a distance of about three-quarters of a mile, reaching the corner of the field, at the opposite end of which were two batteries of the enemy's on a hill commanding the whole advance. General McNair and Colonel Harper, first Arkansas rifles, had just been disabled by wounds, that of the latter officer mortal. The brigade, already in advance of the line, charged furiously upon the batteries diagonally on the right and captured them, taking ten pieces, eight of which were immediately sent with their remaining horses to our rear, and the remaining two, then in the wood, were carried to the rear afterwards, the ground never having been reoccupied by the enemy.

The brigade was now considerably in advance of the line, though this was rapidly approaching; our left was still more exposed by the break made by our diagonal charge; the enemy were firing from the woods in front, while within two hundred yards farther in the woods a large body of the enemy was seen drawn up in good order. Our forces were reduced by our rapid advance and the ammunition nearly exhausted. It was necessary at once to abandon our position. The brigade retired back to the woods, procured ammunition and took position in line on the left of Robinson's brigade. Here, on receiving an order from Brigadier General Johnson, the brigade, under Colonel Coleman, upon whom the command had devolved, advanced forward and to the left, about half a mile, to the support of Johnson's brigade, which was supporting Robinson's battery, which was stationed on the brow of a hill to the right of the Lookout Valley road, at which point the force there were resisting with difficulty the determined advance of the enemy in heavy force. In a few minutes General Johnson ordered our advance, when, passing the line immediately supporting the

battery, which line also advanced, we charged over the hill upon the enemy and after a protracted and obstinate resistance, a brigade on our right and Manigault's brigade on the ridge to our left advancing on parallel lines to us, the enemy were completely driven from the position. In this conflict we suffered much from a flanking fire, arising from tardy support on our left.

The artillery, Captain Culpeper, having assisted in repulsing the enemy at half-past nine, A. M., was placed in position by General Law, with his battery, and remained there during the day. I take great pleasure and pride in saying that the whole brigade behaved most nobly during all the fighting of both days, being uniformly in advance of all others in every onset. Its losses and its trophies bear ample testimony to its good conduct. In another report I propose to particularize individual instances.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. COLEMAN,

*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

A.

*TABULAR STATEMENTS of total aggregates of McNair's Brigade engaged at Chickamauga, September 18th, 19th and 20th, 1863.*

| Command.              | Total. | Aggregate. | No. of rounds fired. |
|-----------------------|--------|------------|----------------------|
| Field and Staff,      |        | 2          |                      |
| 1st Arkansas,         | 254    | 273        | 70                   |
| 4th Arkansas,         | 385    | 415        | 70                   |
| 2d Arkansas,          | 125    | 139        | 70                   |
| 3d North Carolina,    | 232    | 247        | 80                   |
| 25th Arkansas,        | 111    | 135        | 80                   |
| <hr/>                 |        |            |                      |
| Total infantry,       | 1,107  | 1,209      | About 75             |
| Culpeper's battery, } | 80     | 84         | 301 shots.           |
| 8 Co. artillery, }    |        |            |                      |

One caisson exploded, two horses killed and six wounded; one sett wheel harness damaged.

D. COLEMAN,

*Colonel commanding McNair's Brigade.*

HENRY WALDROP,

*A. A. A. General.*

## B.

*TABULAR STATEMENT of Casualties in McNair's Brigade at Chickamauga, on 18th, 19th and 20th of September, 1863.*

| COMMAND.                         | KILLED | WOUNDED.  |           |           | MISSING. | TOTAL. |
|----------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------|
|                                  |        | Mortally. | Severely. | Slightly. |          |        |
| Field and Staff,.....            |        |           | 1         | 1         |          | 2      |
| First Arkansas,.....             | 14     | 3         | 39        | 54        | 16       | 106    |
| Fourth Arkansas,.....            | 14     | 4         | 25        | 31        | 29       | 103    |
| Second Arkansas,.....            | 6      | 1         | 15        | 27        | 3        | 52     |
| Thirty-ninth North Carolina,.... | 10     | 4         | 46        | 40        | 3        | 103    |
| Twenty-fifth Arkansas,.....      | 7      | 4         | 26        | 21        | 3        | 61     |
| Culpeper's S. C. battery,.....   |        |           | 5         | 9         |          | 14     |
|                                  | 51     | 16        | 157       | 163       | 54       | 441    |

D. COLEMAN,

*Colonel commanding McNair's Brigade.*

HENRY WALDROP,

*A. A. A. General.*

## C.

*A STATEMENT of captures made by McNair's Brigade at Chickamauga, on the 18th, 19th and 20th of September, 1863.*

Ten pieces of artillery.

Several caissons, left on the field and brought off afterwards.

Six first class ordnance wagons.

Six wagon loads of small ammunition.

Brought off the field eight hundred fine rifles.

Piled up, for ordnance wagons, two thousand rifles.

Brought off the field twenty-six artillery horses.

Two stand of colors—one eighth Kansas, the other not remembered.

One taken from private Harry Barger, company I, twenty-fifth Arkansas, by force, after capturing it himself, by an officer ranking first lieutenant of Maney's brigade.

D. COLEMAN,

*Colonel commanding McNair's Brigade.*

HENRY WALDROP,

*A. A. A. General.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL JOHN S. FULTON, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE, September 30, 1863.

Captain W. T. BLAKEMORE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant General :*

I have to report the action taken with the enemy by the forty-fourth, twenty-fifth, twenty-third and seventeenth Tennessee regiments, composing this brigade, and company E, of the ninth Georgia battalion of artillery, a battery of two howitzers and two small rifle pieces, commanded by First Lieutenant W. S. Everett, in an affair at and from Ringgold to Chickamauga creek, on the 17th and 18th instants, and at the battle of Chickamauga, on the 19th and 20th instants.

By order from Brigadier General Johnson, this brigade moved at three, P. M., on the 17th instant, from its encampment, three miles south of Ringgold, on the Ringgold and Dalton road, in the following order: twenty-fifth, forty-fourth, twenty-third and seventeenth Tennessee regiments. On our approaching Ringgold, a supply train on its way to Ringgold had been reversed and was rapidly returning. At this juncture I received an order from General B. R. Johnson to form the brigade in line of battle at the foot of Taylor's ridge, and throw forward skirmishers to hold Ringgold. The twenty-fifth Tennessee regiment, being in front, took position on its right flank, to protect the wagons, rapidly moving to the rear. The brigade was formed in line of battle at the foot of Taylor's ridge, the forty-fourth and twenty-fifth Tennessee regiments on the right of the road, and the twenty-third and seventeenth Tennessee regiments on the left. A company from each regiment was sent, in charge of Major Davis, to hold Ringgold, with a detachment of Scott's cavalry on my flanks. A section of the battery was placed on my extreme right on elevated ground, where I ordered it to open upon the enemy's battery, posted on the hill above and to the northwest of Ringgold, which had fired two shots into the town. After firing eight rounds I dislodged the enemy, who was pursued by Colonel Scott's cavalry, with a section of Everett's battery, six miles. He (Colonel Scott) having reached their encampment, a few rounds of grape and canister were fired among the enemy's camp fires, when Colonel Scott, with the section of artillery, retired. The brigade rested on their arms, in line of battle, during the night. Rations were cooked and in haversacks by daylight on the morning of the 18th instant, when we took up the line of march to Leek's tannery. After marching a short distance, the line of march was changed. The regiment countermarched and followed the enemy in the direction of Chattanooga, and, having reached Keeler's (over-shot) mill, we found that the enemy were near us. The brigade was formed in line of battle and skirmishers thrown forward, together with the left wing of the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, under General Forrest, fol-



lowed by the right of that regiment, under command of Lieutenant Colonel McEwen, Jr. Lieutenant Everett fired a few rounds on the enemy, under direction of General Forrest. The skirmishers of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment engaged the cavalry pickets of the enemy, killing three men and mortally wounding one. The enemy's skirmishers having been driven back, the twenty-fifth, twenty-third and seventeenth regiments were moved forward, crossing Peavine creek, some six hundred yards from our first position into and over a corn-field where these regiments were drawn up in line of battle. The enemy had taken his position in the corn-field opposite, running to a high ridge near the juncture of the Graysville and Lafayette, Ringgold and Chattanooga roads. A section of the first Missouri battery, Bledsoe's, having been placed in position on my left by Generals Johnson and Forrest, in rear of the seventeenth Tennessee, (the forty-fourth was now brought to the right of the twenty-fifth Tennessee regiment,) the firing from this battery drove the enemy from his position, and, after shelling the woods in our front, I again received an order to advance in line of battle. My skirmishers were kept deployed at a distance of two hundred yards, which distance they kept, passing over the ridge (a strong position) and forward to Reed's bridge, across which the enemy had moved and taken position in the woods beyond. Before reaching the bridge, Reed's, the seventeenth Tennessee was detached and sent by General Forrest to the left to attack a force of the Federals at their principal encampment. Before gaining this position, however, the enemy fled. The skirmishers of the twenty-third Tennessee, whilst approaching Reed's bridge, became engaged, and the twenty-third Tennessee regiment voluntarily pushed forward with a yell and drove the enemy from the bridge before it could be destroyed. Here the twenty-third Tennessee had five men wounded, one of whom, private A. Melton, color-bearer, when obliged to give up his colors, called upon his successor to carry them forward "ahead of every thing else." Skirmishers were immediately sent over the bridge and deployed, followed by the forty-fourth, twenty-fifth and twenty-third Tennessee regiments, which filed to the right some three or four hundred yards, through a corn-field. The enemy now opened a battery upon the bridge, one of its shells wounding Lieutenant Hastings, of the seventeenth Tennessee, which regiment was returning to rejoin the brigade and crossed over the bridge under the enemy's fire of artillery. A section of first Missouri, Bledsoe's, battery, of the reserve artillery, opened fire and drove the enemy's battery from its position.

The brigade moved forward in line of battle, changing direction to the right, and moved in line to Alexander's bridge, where we were halted and remained for the brigade on our left (Gregg's) to come up.

Gregg's brigade moved forward, followed by Johnson's, which, after marching some six hundred yards, the forty-fourth Tennessee was detached to guard our wagon train. Having marched some two and a half miles by the flank, Gregg's brigade became engaged with the enemy. We changed front forward on left company, left battalion, and moved up on line with other troops on our left, and rested on our



arms during the night, one-third of the men being required to be awake, and skirmishers deployed in our front.

Saturday, September 19th. Early this morning a detail of intelligent men was made, five from each regiment, to reconnoitre the enemy's line. They reported to me, about ten, A. M., the enemy one and a quarter miles distant and in our front. The forty-fourth Tennessee took its position on the right of the brigade, and the line of the brigade conformed to that of Gregg's, on our left, and Robinsen's, on our right, which encompassed the top of a low ridge. The firing commenced on our right about eight, A. M., and continued along the line until Cheatham became engaged.

About one, P. M., the skirmishers of the seventeenth Tennessee, as well as those of Gregg's brigade, were driven in. A general engagement was now commenced on our left, the left companies of the seventeenth Tennessee participating by firing obliquely to the left. At this time Everett's battery was placed behind the extreme left of the seventeenth Tennessee, the fire of which drove the enemy back at this point.

Shortly after, the command to move forward was given, the left regiment to touch to the right until we reached the road, when the right would move slowly, that the left may come up to the road, thus to change direction slightly to the right. But this order was not fully carried out. We did not advance exceeding seven hundred yards, when the enemy opened fire upon us, and we became hotly engaged. The enemy had planted a battery, which struck about the centre of the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, and which opened upon our advancing line, throwing, in rapid succession, grape and canister, and supported by infantry, whose fire of small arms was heavy, well directed and disastrous. The entire brigade now became hotly engaged, (during this engagement Major Lowe, of the twenty-fifth Tennessee, was wounded,) which lasted nearly an hour, the enemy making a stubborn resistance, gradually retreating, he having advantage of both undergrowth and ground, but finally was driven across the Chattanooga and Lafayette road. The seventeenth Tennessee regiment, on approaching the road, was halted and opened fire on the enemy in its front, distant about two hundred yards, in a woodland, the undergrowth having been cut out, the enemy were in full view. The forty-fourth Tennessee was still engaging the enemy. The twenty-fifth and a portion of the twenty-third Tennessee regiment crossed the road the other portion of the twenty-third being with the seventeenth Tennessee, and gained the cover of the woods, and moved to the flank of the enemy's battery, still firing upon the right of our line, at right angles with my present line, gaining a fence, under which they opened fire, delivering several volleys, ceased firing, re-loaded and charged the battery, driving the enemy's gunners from their guns and killing several horses. The caissons were moved off by the enemy, leaving their pieces on the field. The seventeenth Tennessee and the other portion of the twenty-third Tennessee had crossed the road, having driven the enemy. The seventeenth Tennessee here lost one officer killed, two officers and about twenty men

wounded. In this engagement the forty-fourth Tennessee suffered heavily, sustaining a loss in killed and wounded. A portion of Robinson's extreme left (Texans) and part of the forty-fourth Tennessee had been driven back, but about two-thirds of the forty-fourth Tennessee crossed the road. Here Lieutenant Colonel McEwen, Jr., five company officers, (Captain Jackson one of the number,) and fifty men were wounded and six men killed; among the latter, Sergeant T. A. Johnson, color-bearer, one of the bravest of the brave. Lieutenant Colonel McEwen, Jr., however, remained with his command, after he was wounded, until obliged to retire from exhaustion. Lieutenant Colonel Tillman, of the forty-first Tennessee. Gregg's brigade, rode up to me at this time, stating that the enemy was moving down the road to my left, and would soon be in my rear; doubting the report, I suggested that our lines were connected on our left and that a flank or rear movement could not therefore be made by the enemy. I, however, found that but two regiments of Gregg's brigade had moved up with my line, and they had retired. Lieutenant Colonel Tillman had thus lost sight of his regiment, and, in company with him and Lieutenant Colonel Floyd, I started to the road to satisfy myself as to the correctness of this report; I had gone but a short distance when I discovered a column of the enemy moving by the flank in direction of the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, which rapidly gained its rear. I heard distinctly the commander's halt, front, and immediately their fire was pouring upon our flank and rear. Here a general stampede ensued, so sudden and unexpected was the movement. We fell back two hundred yards in rear of the Chattanooga and Lafayette road and reformed. In this flank movement of the enemy the seventeenth Tennessee regiment lost eleven officers, including their gallant Major Davis, who was wounded, and about sixty men taken prisoners. The brigade built temporary breastworks, behind which it remained during the night, in line of battle. Our skirmishers, under Major McCarver, were directed to occupy the Chattanooga and Lafayette road, but this could not be done, the lines on my right and left not conforming thereto; I, however, instructed them to be posted within fifty yards of the road.

Sunday, 20th September. This morning my line connected on the right with McNair's, (Gregg being in the next line, in our rear,) and General Hindman on the left. Everett's battery took position between my left and the right of Law's. Shortly after nine, A. M., the skirmishers, under direction of Lieutenant Colonel Ready, fell back to the breastworks, bringing those of the enemy after them. A well directed fire from the forty-fourth Tennessee drove the enemy's skirmishers back, leaving many of his dead in our front. My skirmishers were sent forward and very soon they became again engaged, the enemy using his artillery. About ten, A. M., a general advance was ordered. The left of the brigade had advanced but a short distance before it became engaged with the enemy, the battle having commenced some three hours earlier on the right. The seventeenth Tennessee recrossed the Chattanooga and Lafayette road, when it engaged the enemy. The whole line crossing the fence, the engagement became

general. Here we passed a house and garden, and through an open field, (it was here that Lieutenant Colonel Ready, of twenty-third Tennessee, was wounded, while rushing forward.) On entering the house, cribs, &c., many prisoners, both officers and men, were captured, and here some fine swords were taken from the enemy. Among the prisoners was the colonel of the one hundredth Illinois regiment. The enemy's breastworks, which had been built at intervals along his line, offered but a poor assistance to the enemy to resist our advance, which was not only vigorous and spirited, but irresistible, we found he had a second line of breastworks about eighty yards in rear of the first, made of logs and rocks, behind which they scarcely halted. Having driven the enemy from his first position, we halted and reformed our line in front of a dense, low pine thicket. Pressing forward, we carried this position, the dead of the enemy showing how good a protection he had calculated on. We passed through a stubble wheat-field to a ravine, until we reached the edge of a long open field, the upper side of which being a bald hill, or high ridge, upon which the enemy had a heavy battery of nine guns, firing upon the advancing line on our right. Without delay the field was entered and charged across, and the ridge, or bald hill, was gained, the troops on our right having flanked and silenced the enemy's battery, which was captured. Everett's battery was immediately brought up, together with Dent's, which were opened upon the enemy's retreating wagon train, moving on the Chattanooga and Crawfish Spring road. I sent forward skirmishers to reconnoitre the hollow beneath, where was found the enemy's telegraph running up the Chattanooga and Crawfish Spring road, several hundred yards to our right. This telegraph was cut down, and several prisoners captured; among the prisoners a staff officer of Major General Van Cleave, and one of General Rozenzanz's escort, with their horses and equipments. The effect of our batteries was fine, the enemy rapidly retreating. A mounted officer was dispatched to the troops on our left, who had not kept pace with us, with a flag, to show and direct them to our position; they had already opened one of their batteries upon our position, *having taken us for the enemy*: their battery was playing on us from the second hill on our left. Having received orders to move to the hollow beneath, we here changed direction to the right, which threw the line almost perpendicular to the former; this done, I pushed forward, entering a corn-field. Here we began to see the front of our rapid and continuous movements. Three twelve pounder brass field pieces and three cannons were here captured, and one four-horse caisson, one of which, with four mules attached, was immediately sent to the rear; three of these wagons were laden with ordnance, the others with commissary and quartermaster's stores. Some of the wagons were captured, another was their confusion. I immediately found that my left flank was exposed, and sent forward a heavy line of skirmishers to cover both my left flank and front, and advanced the brigade to the hill-side and there halted. I also sent forward a party to reconnoitre the front in advance of the line of skirmishers, who, after an absence of an hour, reported the enemy about one and a half miles distant.

and advancing. In the meantime, I had learned of the enemy having skirmishers, or that occasional shots were fired from the hill on my left, running almost at right angles with the one on which I was then resting. I sent immediately a company of skirmishers to reconnoitre the hill—a few prisoners were brought in. In the corner of the field below my present position was Villette's house, where the enemy had practised many outrages; the ladies were found lying under the floor of the house, and, when they saw the enemy retreating and our line advancing, they broke from their concealment, shouting and clapping their hands for joy. A delay of an hour occurred whilst waiting the movement of some troops to our left, under orders from General B. R. Johnson. During this time, however, a portion of Dent's and Everett's batteries were placed in position in front of the brigade, and we replenished our cartridge-boxes from the enemy's three wagons, laden with ordnance, which had been captured here.

Between one and two o'clock, P. M., I advanced to the top of the hill, when we were again upon the enemy, who opened a heavy fire upon us. Our batteries and small arms here were engaging the enemy some fifteen minutes, when our line fell back some fifteen paces under cover of the hill, Gregg's command, on my right, giving back at the same time; this, no doubt, having started the backward movement. Just at this time the two brigades (Day's and one other) were marching in line of battle by the Villette house to connect with our lines on the left, they changing direction to the right for this purpose. A general advance was ordered, and our batteries opened simultaneously. The firing was heavy, and the enemy's massive columns were hurled against our wearied heroes. Again our line fell back. Two brigades now came up in our rear; one of these brigades moved in advance of us, and, receiving the enemy's fire, fell back behind us again. My line was again ordered forward, the enemy being within fifty yards of the batteries and but one piece firing. Here commenced a most desperate struggle for the possession of this ground—Missionary ridge. The battle raged furiously, and the tide of success wavered in the balances; charge after charge was repulsed, only to rally and charge again. Again our line fell back, and the untiring, indomitable and determined officers rallied again their fast thinning ranks, and again moved forward. Here officers and men behaved most gallantly; appeals to love of home and wounded comrades, and the peril of the moment were made, and never did men rush forward more eager, daring, desperate and defiantly. The enemy's treble lines now began to show that our fire was terribly effective upon them. Our cartridge-boxes had been replenished as required, and still we were nearly out. Again more ammunition was supplied, and the conflict continued hot and heavy. The enemy was now slowly giving back, hard pressed by our now shattered remnants. Another charge, with the yells of the men and cheers of the officers, and forward we pressed, only to discover the victory was ours and the enemy in full retreat. This series of engagements lasted four long hours, during which Johnson's brigade won many laurels and an imperishable name. At this moment, another brigade came up, and was loudly cheered forward, but the

enemy made no resistance. Our ammunition being (with but few exceptions) exhausted, the brigade halted and reformed, moved forward, about-faced, marched back some distance and formed on Mangault's line. Here we sent forward pickets to cover our front, and several prisoners were brought in. The men rested on their arms during the night, having on this day won a victory—one of the most glorious of the war. In this engagement, Everett's battery fired very effectively, being in the thickest of the fight. This evening he had one sergeant and two men wounded, and five horses shot down by the enemy during the engagement. This morning, whilst firing on the enemy's wagon train, he dismounted one piece of the enemy's artillery. He fired four hundred and twenty-eight rounds during the four days' fight. I commend the officers of this battery to favorable consideration for their fidelity and good conduct whilst under fire.

I have also to notice the services of Lieutenant Dent, commanding Robinson's battery, whose fire upon the enemy was incessant and effective. Both officers and men behaved most coolly and gallantly during the day.

I have great pleasure in attesting to the gallant and efficient conduct of the following officers:

Lieutenant Colonel McEwen, Jr., commanding forty-fourth Tennessee regiment, wounded.

Lieutenant Colonel Snowden, commanding twenty-fifth Tennessee regiment.

Colonel Keeble, commanding twenty-third Tennessee regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Ready, of twenty-third Tennessee regiment, wounded.

Major Lowe, — Tennessee regiment, wounded.

Lieutenant Colonel Floyd, commanding seventeenth Tennessee regiment.

Major Davis, of seventeenth Tennessee regiment, wounded and captured.

Adjutants Cross, Gwynn and Fitzpatrick, and Lieutenant Gregg who came into the action on Sunday morning. Also, Captain Terry, who after he was wounded on Saturday evening, rendered me valuable service on Sunday. Mention may also be made of the following: Private (ex-captain) Ridley, of twenty-third Tennessee, who went into the action and fought manfully with a gun, setting a good example to all. Lieutenant Vernon, of company B, twenty-third Tennessee, for the manner in which he bore himself.

On entering the action this command numbered as follows, viz:

| <i>Commands.</i>        | <i>Officers.</i> | <i>Men.</i> | <i>Aggregate.</i> |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Forty-fourth Tennessee, | 28               | 266         | 294               |
| Twenty-fifth Tennessee, | 25               | 120         | 145               |
| Twenty-third Tennessee, | 28               | 153         | 181               |
| Seventeenth Tennessee,  | 27               | 222         | 249               |
| Battery,                | —                | —           | 85—954            |

The number of the different regiments of this command was thus



small, the barefooted men having been sent to the rear by order from the division commander, as follows :

Forty-fourth Tennessee, fifty-six men ; twenty-fifth Tennessee, twenty-three men ; twenty-third Tennessee, twenty-six men ; seventeenth Tennessee, one hundred and twenty men and two officers. Aggregate, two hundred and twenty-seven.

My loss was as follows :

| Command.                | Killed. | Wounded. | Captured and Missing. |
|-------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|
| Forty-fourth Tennessee, | 10      | 88       | 15                    |
| Seventeenth        "    | ..      | 61       | 69                    |
| Twenty-third       "    | 8       | 77       | 13                    |
| Twenty-fifth       "    | 10      | 45       | 1                     |
| Battery,                | ..      | 3        | ..                    |
| Total,                  | 28      | 274      | 98                    |
| Aggregate, 400.         |         |          |                       |

I have much pleasure in stating that there was no straggling, either by officers or men. I have also great satisfaction in noticing the medical appointments of this brigade, for promptness and efficiency. The care and treatment of the wounded by Dr. Jackson, of forty-fourth Tennessee, acting brigade surgeon ; Dr. Plummer, of twenty-third Tennessee ; Dr. Harris and Dr. Jones, of seventeenth Tennessee ; and Drs. Fryar and Jackson, of twenty-fifth Tennessee. Also, I return my thanks to Dr. John Gannaway, who volunteered his services and rendered himself useful in a high degree. I think I may say that the wounded of this brigade received attention second to no other brigade in the army commanded by General Bragg.

I have to report the following capture of ordnance and ordnance stores : Three hundred Enfield rifles, (in train ; ) two thousand two hundred Enfield rifles, different calibres, stacked on the field ; total, two thousand four hundred. Sixty-nine thousand Enfield cartridges, calibre five hundred and seventy-seven, (in train ; ) thirty-five thousand Enfield cartridges issued from enemy's wagons ; fifty thousand piled with small arms ; total, one hundred and fifty-four thousand.

Of the wagons captured this day, nine (four-horse) were secured by this brigade ; one, with team, for ordnance train. Also, three wagon loads of accoutrements.

Lieutenant Lake, in charge of the division ordnance train, has made the foregoing report to me. The *pro rata* of this capture is due to Johnson's brigade, viz : One hundred Enfield rifles, seven hundred and thirty-three guns different calibre, stacked on field ; total, eight hundred and thirty-three. Twenty-three thousand Enfield cartridges ; eleven thousand six hundred and sixty-six issued from enemy's wagons ; sixteen thousand six hundred and sixty-seven piled with small arms ; total, fifty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three. One wagon load of accoutrements I have also to enumerate. Three brass twelve-pounder cannon ; three caissons for cannon, captured on the field on Sunday evening by this brigade as mentioned in this report, one of which was hauled to the rear by Lieutenant Everett, command-



ing my battery, "attached." I would also state that one of the above guns was manned by men (artillerists) from the seventeenth and twenty-third Tennessee regiments, and used, under direction of Lieutenant Dent, with good effect on the enemy during the four hours' contest on Sunday evening. I have also to mention Ordnance Sergeant J. F. Baxter, wounded on the field. This man is an untiring officer and faithful to his trust.

The provost guard, under Lieutenants Ewing and Orr, rendered invaluable service. I am pleased to notice the conduct of private Turner Goodall, of the provost guard, who, in the thickest of the fight on Sunday evening, seeing the men all so gallantly at work and hard pressed, came up with his gun and fought manfully through the hottest of the fight and, by words of encouragement to his fellow soldiers and example, did his whole duty as a soldier and provost guard.

The capture of prisoners by this brigade in the two days' fight exceeds six hundred men and officers sent to the rear. I would also mention Lieutenant Ewing, of the provost guard, from the seventeenth Tennessee regiment, who, finding that the officers of his company had all been placed *hors de combat*, asked permission and returned to take command of his company on Sunday morning. He is a worthy and promising officer.

I have to report the following articles captured from the enemy, and secured by Dr. John W. Templeton for the use of the brigade: One two-horse spring ambulance, seventy dozen bandages, two pounds opium, and other medicines, one dozen sets of splints. Dr. Templeton is the hospital steward of the forty-fourth Tennessee regiment.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN S. FULTON,

Colonel commanding Johnson's brigade

## REPORT OF COLONEL D. C. GOVAN, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS LIDDELL'S BRIGADE, }  
Missionary Ridge, October 6, 1863. }

Captain G. A. WILLIAMS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the recent battle of Chickamauga, on the 19th and 20th of September, 1863:

On the 18th of September, about two o'clock, P. M., I, with General Walthall's brigade, forming a reserve division, commanded by General Liddell, in Walker's corps, arrived in front of Alexander's bridge, on West Chickamauga creek. I was ordered to move forward, supporting General Walthall's brigade in an attack to gain possession of the bridge, then held by the enemy. Walthall's brigade, moving forward, soon engaged the enemy, who occupied a dense thicket on the south-side of the creek, near the bridge. After firing several volleys he hastily retreated, leaving us in possession of the bridge, which was, however, rendered useless, the planks having been removed. The brigade was not actively engaged, excepting the skirmishers, who were thrown forward on General Walthall's left to the creek, sustaining a loss of one killed and five wounded. Moving down the creek one and a half miles, I crossed at Byron's ford, and bivouacked about one mile from the ford.

Early on the morning of the 19th, I moved in a southwesterly direction, and halted in a position nearly opposite Alexander's bridge. While here, awaiting orders, it was ascertained that a heavy column of the enemy was moving around to turn our right flank. Wilson's and Ector's brigades were already engaged, and were being heavily pressed. About twelve o'clock, M., I was ordered to move forward to their support. Walthall's brigade, being on my right, formed line of battle facing northward. Moving forward about one-quarter of a mile, I engaged the enemy, and succeeded by a charge in driving him from his position, capturing his artillery and three or four hundred prisoners. Pursuing this advantage, I encountered his second line, which was also routed after a hotly contested fight, again leaving his artillery in our possession. I had previously been cautioned by General Liddell to look well to my left flank, as a force of the enemy were reported advancing in that direction. I accordingly instructed Colonel Gillespie, commanding the left regiment of the brigade, to protect his left by throwing skirmishers well on his flank, and, in case of being attacked from that direction, to change his front so as to meet the attack. About the time, or just previous to engaging the third line, a heavy column of the enemy moved on my left flank. The left regiment, according to my instructions, changed front so as to meet it, while the other regiments of the brigade engaged him in front. This

overwhelming force, which attacked my left flank and had gained my rear, forced me to retire, which movement I executed by the flank, in order to prevent the capture of a portion of the brigade, and reformed my line in rear of General Cheatham's division, then moving into position. It was afterwards ascertained that we had engaged the whole of General Thomas' (Federal) corps. The two lines which I had driven back in confusion were composed in part of the fifth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth and twenty-first regiments regular United States army. Four hundred men and some officers belonging to these regiments were captured and safely sent to the rear, together with three Parrott guns, composing a part of Loomis' battery, designated as company H, fifth artillery, United States army, which were sent to the rear under charge of three men belonging to the first Louisiana regiment, and delivered to Major Palmer, chief of artillery, Walker's corps. One piece, a James rifle gun, captured by the second and fifteenth Arkansas regiments, was carried to the rear by hand by men belonging to that regiment, and delivered to Lieutenant Shannon, commanding Swett's battery. The other pieces from which the enemy had been driven (the horses attached to them being either killed or disabled) we were compelled to leave behind when we retired. This engagement lasted nearly two hours.

In the fight many gallant officers and privates were killed and wounded. Among the first was Colonel L. Featherston, commanding fifth and thirteenth Arkansas regiments, who fell, mortally wounded, while gallantly leading his regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Bruce, commanding eighth Arkansas and first Louisiana regiment, severely wounded, while carrying the colors at the head of his regiment. Late in the evening I was ordered to the extreme right, on the prolongation of the line occupied by General Cheatham, facing westward, with Walthall's brigade on my left. Moving forward I ascertained that there was no considerable force of the enemy in my front, the firing indicating him to be in the immediate front of General Walthall in force. My left regiment, the sixth and seventh Arkansas, gave way, and moved about two hundred yards to the rear, being, as they informed me, enfiladed and fired into. While in this position, one of our own batteries in rear fired over my lines and slightly wounded several of my men. The fire from the battery continuing, I moved a short distance to the rear, and by the left flank, and formed on Walthall's right, in which position we remained during the night. I was informed by several officers that there was a battery immediately in front of the last position occupied, which the enemy had abandoned, and which I might have had conveyed to the rear if I had ascertained the fact sooner.

On the morning of the 20th, about nine o'clock, I was ordered to take a position on the extreme right, supporting Major General Breckinridge's division. About noon I was ordered to advance, making a slight change of direction to the left. While executing this movement, I was ordered by one of Lieutenant General Polk's staff officers to the assistance of Gist's brigade, which was heavily pressed by the enemy. The officer could only give me general direction as to where

General Gist's brigade was engaged. Encountering no enemy in my front, I commenced changing direction to the left, so as to meet the enemy, who had opened fire upon me from the edge of the woods immediately on my left flank. This movement, difficult at all times, was executed across an open field, in an exposed position and under a heavy fire of musketry. The brigade pressed gallantly forward, and succeeded in driving the enemy from his position in the woods. Continuing this circular movement to the left, the left regiment pressed up to an angle of the enemy's fortifications, while the right continued to press the enemy across an open field, until I had reached a position forming an acute angle with our original direction and almost immediately in rear of a line of the enemy's strongest breastworks.

Gist's brigade, which I had not succeeded in finding, had fallen back about the time I had engaged the enemy. I was thus completely isolated from our line. I would here state that Walthall's brigade had previously been sent to another part of the field.

The enemy, being massed in heavy force behind his breastworks and perceiving the interval between my left and the right of our lines, made a vigorous attack upon my left and succeeded, by enfilading and overlapping it, in breaking it, and thus, while the right was driving the enemy, it was in danger of being captured. This was only obviated by the greatest efforts on the part of the regimental commanders, who, after they had succeeded in halting their commands, moved by the right flank and, by a circuitous route, succeeded in rejoining the command. I immediately reformed the line, and was placed in position in the front line, on the left of General Walthall's brigade.

About five o'clock, P. M., orders were received to advance. There was a considerable interval between me and Jackson's brigade, next on my left, which fact was represented to General Liddell, and by him communicated to General Walker. The movement commenced, I, in obedience to orders, conforming my movements to those of General Walthall's brigade, next on my right. I passed on, moving square to the front, two of the regiments passing through an open field, through which I had executed the change of direction to the left in the engagements last mentioned. The skirmishers in my front developed no enemy.

Just before reaching the Chattanooga and Lafayette road, Captain Stringfellow, first Louisiana, in command of the skirmishers, reported to me that he saw two of the enemy's batteries in position, about two hundred and fifty yards from my left flank, on either side of the above mentioned road, supported by a long line of infantry. Jackson's brigade, which was some distance to my left and rear, having engaged the enemy in his front, had halted, thus leaving my left entirely unprotected. Upon examination I found the report of Captain Stringfellow to be correct, discovering the enemy to be in position as he represented. It was impossible, from the disposition of the enemy's force, for me to extricate myself by changing my front. Reaching a position just across the road, and on a line with

General Walthall's left, I ordered the men to lie down. The enemy immediately opened fire from the two batteries on my left, and also with small arms; while two batteries, afterwards ascertained to be on General Walthall's right, opened almost at the same time. Under this heavy and galling fire, no other alternative was left but to withdraw the brigade as speedily as possible, to save it from annihilation or capture. The brigade retreated in considerable confusion, but was promptly rallied, and reformed some three or four hundred yards in rear.

Shortly afterwards, I again advanced to a position near the house of McDonald, on the Chattanooga and Lafayette road, and some distance to the right of the position from which I had just been driven. Just about this time the enemy's line gave way in every quarter, and the battle was ended.

The loss in officers and privates was very heavy, being over fifty per cent. of the number carried into the fight, a report of which is herewith forwarded.

For instances of individual bravery and skill among company officers and privates, I refer you to reports of regimental commanders. Among the field officers, Lieutenant Colonels John L. Murray and R. F. Harvey, the former commanding the fifth and thirteenth Arkansas regiments, the latter the second and fifteenth Arkansas regiments, were particularly distinguished for their gallantry during the engagements; and by their coolness and skill, on two occasions, saved their regiments from capture. I strongly recommend the first (Lieutenant Colonel Murray) to the favorable consideration of the President as one particularly distinguished for his skill and gallantry in the battle of Chickamauga. To Lieutenant Colonel Harvey, then commanding the second and fifteenth regiments, an equal meed of praise is due, but, unfortunately for the service, this gallant officer died on the 30th instant of disease contracted by over-exertions on the field, lamented by all who knew him.

To Captain Fletcher, company A, thirteenth Arkansas regiment, I am indebted for saving one piece of Swett's battery, which had several horses disabled and, but for his timely efforts, would have fallen into the enemy's hands. He seized the colors of the second and fifteenth Arkansas regiments and rallied enough men to drive back the enemy, whose skirmishers were within a short distance of the gun.

Lieutenant Shannon, commanding Swett's battery, handled it with distinguished skill and gallantry, and most effectively, whenever an opportunity offered.

The members of my staff, Lieutenant J. G. Warfield, assistant adjutant and inspector general, Lieutenant W. L. Laurie, assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant G. T. Snowden, aide-de-camp, rendered me efficient aid and were always at my command.

In conclusion, as an act of justice to the brigade which I had the honor to command, and with which I have been associated in all the hard contested battles in the west, from Shiloh to this last memorable one, I beg leave to state that they never failed to drive the enemy in

their front, and advanced each time with a single line, unsupported, and with one or the other of my flanks unprotected, and that on no former occasion was their courage and endurance more severely tested, nor in any previous battle did they ever exhibit more determined bravery and gallantry.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. C. GOVAN,

*Colonel commanding Brigade.*



## REPORT OF COLONEL R. Q. MILLS, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS DESHLER'S BRIGADE, }  
Missionary Ridge, Oct. 6, 1863. }

Captain J. A. BUCK,

*A. A. General Cburne's Division :*

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders from general headquarters, I herewith submit my report of the action of this brigade in the battle of the 19th and 20th ultimo:

This brigade, composed of Colonel Wilkes' Texas regiment, Colonel Mills' Texas regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Hutchinson's Arkansas regiment, and Captain Douglas' Texas battery, under command of Brigadier General James Deshler, moved about three o'clock, P. M., on Saturday, the 19th ultimo, from a point near the junction of the Lafayette and McLemore's valley roads, towards our extreme right, and in rear and parallel with our line of battle. About half-past four o'clock, P. M., we crossed a branch of the Chickamauga and moved directly and hastily forward to the extreme right, where the battle seemed raging with great fierceness. After passing, for sometime, through swarms of stragglers, prisoners and wounded, we arrived on the line, and were formed, facing our right flank, and moved forward to the attack, and proceeded some two hundred yards, when the brigade was halted and ordered to lie down. In a few minutes we rose up and advanced to the front, and occupied some time in getting our position.

It was now getting dark, but the firing was still heavy and constant between the enemy and some brigade opposite our extreme right and perpendicular to our line. We were not more than a hundred yards from his right flank, where he had a battery of artillery firing at the troops on our right. We remained here some minutes. Brigadier General Deshler did not know but that the battery was our own, and declined to advance on it in the dark; it being then impossible to distinguish friend from foe. The contest in front of our right was soon decided in favor of the Confederates. The enemy was beaten back, and there was a temporary lull on the field. The skirmishers from Colonel Wilkes' regiment, in moving forward in the dark, came suddenly and unexpectedly on the enemy's line and were captured. He, in attempting to retreat from the brigade in his front, as unexpectedly came upon Colonel Wilkes' regiment on his flank, where he was greeted with a volley that killed and wounded several and caused them to propose a surrender, when about one hundred prisoners, including several officers, were taken, together with two stand of colors from the seventy-seventh Illinois and the seventy-ninth Pennsylvania, by Colonel Wilkes' regiment, against which the main force came. Some dozen or more were taken, each, by Lieutenant Colonel Anderson and Lieutenant Colonel Hutchinson. In this affair Colonel Wilkes also recaptured his skirmishers. This, with the exception of occasional

firing by our skirmishers, terminated the fighting for the night. We moved back several hundred yards and formed line of battle, and laid down to rest till morning. In the night our line was again reformed, throwing forward our left wing.

About half-past nine o'clock, on the morning of the 20th, we moved off a short distance by the left flank, and then advanced to the front, passing through a portion of Major General Cheatham's division. Having gained an open ground several hundred yards in our front, the enemy began, from one or two long-range guns, to shell our line, and, as we approached nearer, gave us several shots of canister, killing and wounding some fifteen or twenty men. We finally arrived, about ten o'clock, A. M., on the ground we were ordered to occupy. We found it being hastily abandoned by the troops who were occupying it before we came. We advanced to the crest of the hill, some two hundred yards in front of the enemy's barricades and breastworks, when he opened a destructive fire upon us. We were ordered to lie down and commence firing. We now began the engagement in earnest, but at great disadvantage. The enemy was behind his defences, and we without cover; he had two batteries of artillery, we had none, our own battery not being able to get a position to give us aid. Captain Semple's splendid battery was on the hill with us, and on the extreme left of the brigade, when we moved up and occupied the hill. It fired a few shots, and was moved to some other portion of the field. The enemy poured on our heads, from ten o'clock, A. M., to half-past one or two o'clock, P. M., a constant and terrible fire of artillery and musketry, which we returned with our rifles, with the same constancy and stubbornness.

About twelve o'clock, M., our supply of ammunition began to give out, and I sent a courier to Brigadier General Deshler to inform him of the fact and to ask where we could get more. A few minutes after I saw him coming towards my right, some forty paces from me, when he was struck by a shell in the chest and his heart literally torn from his bosom. I may pause here to pay a passing tribute to the memory of our fallen chief. He was brave, generous and kind, even to a fault. Ever watchful and careful for the safety of any member of his command, he was ever ready to peril his own. Refusing to permit a staff officer to endanger his life in going to examine the cartridge boxes to see what amount of ammunition his men had, he cheerfully started himself to brave the tempest of death that raged on the crest of the hill. He had gone but little way when he fell—fell as he would wish to fall—in the very centre of his brigade, in the midst of the line, between the ranks, and surrounded by the bodies of his fallen comrades. He poured out his blood upon the spot watered by the best blood of his brigade. Among the host of brave hearts that were offered on the altar of sacrifice for their country on that beautiful Sabbath, there perished not one nobler, braver or better than his. He lived beloved, and fell lamented and mourned by every officer and man of his command. He sleeps on the spot where he fell; on the field of his country's victory and glory, surrounded by the bodies of those who stood around him in life, and lie around him in death. A



*Gen. John A. B. Smith*



messenger from Colonel Wilkes' regiment informed me of the fact soon after General Deshler fell, also that Colonel Wilkes was wounded and not with the regiment.

Just at this critical juncture our ammunition was exhausted, and no one knew where to get more. I assumed command, and, supposing that the enemy would advance as soon as the firing ceased, I ordered bayonets fixed and the cartridge-boxes of the wounded and dead to be gathered, and one round from them to be given to each man to load his gun with, and hold his fire in reserve to repel an assault. While this order was being executed, Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, who was on the left of my regiment, sent Lieutenant Graham to inform me that the four left companies had not been firing. Being at too great a distance from the enemy, he had the good sense to prevent them from wasting their ammunition unnecessarily. I immediately ordered those four companies to the front on the hill, where the fire was hottest, and ordered Lieutenant Colonel Anderson to take command of them and hold the hill at every hazard, till I could get ammunition and have it distributed. I soon procured the ammunition, and refilled my cartridge-boxes. At this time, one of the Major General's staff came to me and informed me that I was ordered to hold the hill on which the brigade was formed; that I was not permitted to advance, and must not retire if it were possible to hold my position. I therefore moved my command at once some twenty or thirty paces to the rear of the crest, and on the side of the hill, for cover, leaving a body of sharpshooters behind trees on the top of the hill to keep up a fire with the enemy. The enemy's fire soon slackened down to a contest between the skirmishers. At the same time, he advanced a line of skirmishers toward the open space between my command and Brigadier General Polk, on my right. I soon received information from Lieutenant Colonel Coit, then commanding Wilkes' regiment, that the enemy was moving around my right flank in force. I ordered him to throw out a company of flankers and engage them. In less than twenty minutes I was informed that our skirmishers were retiring before the enemy. I immediately ordered Lieutenant Colonel Hutchinson to reinforce the skirmishers with one company from his regiment, which was promptly done. Still hearing of this flank movement, I ordered Captain Keuard, of Lieutenant Col. Anderson's regiment, to reinforce the other two companies with his, take command himself of these companies, put his men under good cover, and hold the enemy in check at all hazards. He very promptly moved with his company to the ground, assumed command of the three companies, repulsed the enemy's skirmishers, and held his position without a serious struggle. A straggling fire was kept up between the enemy and my sharpshooters till late in the evening, when the advance of our left wing caused him to abandon his works and take to his heels. The troops of my command, both officers and men, behaved with the greatest bravery, coolness and self-possession, during the whole engagement. They advanced with a steady step, under heavy fire of shell, canister and musketry, to their position, and held it with firmness and unwavering fortitude.

throughout the fight. Texans vied with each other to prove themselves worthy of the fame won by their brothers on other fields, and the little handful of Arkansas troops showed themselves worthy to have their names enrolled among the noblest, bravest and best of their State. It is scarcely possible for them to exhibit higher evidences of courage, patriotism and pride on any other field. They were not permitted to advance, and would not retire, but, as brave men and good soldiers, they obeyed the orders of their general and held the hill. Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, Lieutenant Colonel Hutchinson and Major Taylor remained constantly on the line, handled their commands with ability and conducted themselves gallantly through the entire action.

I most respectfully refer you to the reports of subordinate commanders for particular acts of gallantry, lists of casualties, etc. I feel it my duty, however, to record here the names of Lieutenant Matt. Graham, of company C, tenth Texas regiment, and Private Willam McCann, of company A, fifteenth Texas regiment, as worthy of honorable mention for their conduct, more than ordinarily gallant, on the field. Lieutenant Graham several times volunteered, and insisted on being permitted, to carry orders and messages up and down the line, where he was constantly exposed to the thickest fire. His services were highly beneficial to Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, who speaks of him in terms of highest praise. Private McCann was under my own eye. He stood upright, cheerful and self-possessed in the very hail of deadly missiles, and cheered up his comrades around him. After he had expended all his ammunition, he gathered up the cartridge-boxes of the dead and wounded, and distributed them to his comrades. He bore himself like a hero through the entire contest, and fell mortally wounded by the last volleys of the enemy. I promised him during the engagement that I would mention his good conduct, and, as he was borne dying from the field, he turned his boyish face upon me and, with a light and pleasant smile, reminded me of my promise.

The first Texas battery, commanded by Captain James P. Douglas, belonging to Deshler's brigade, was not engaged on the 19th. On the 20th it followed the brigade as far as the open field, covered thickly with felled timber, when, finding it impossible to follow us further, Captain Douglas moved towards our left flank and came into another field, where he was exposed to the enemy's fire. He immediately opened fire on Douglas from two of his batteries, killing one of his horses and knocking down one of his wheels. He extricated himself from this position, and, by order of Major General Cleburne, took position on the hill with the brigades of Brigadier Generals Wood and Polk, in rear of my line. He afterwards moved down on the right to where Brigadier General Polk was warmly engaging the enemy, disengaged his horses and carried his pieces by hand in the very face of the foe. He fired a few rounds at sixty or eighty yards distant from the enemy, advancing his pieces by hand with the line of Brig. General Polk's brigade. The enemy were soon routed and fled the field. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Captain Douglas and the officers and men of his battery, for their gallant conduct.



They were not engaged for any considerable length of time, but the very short quarters at which Captain Douglas threw down the gauntlet soon decided the enemy to yield the field to a battery that could charge a brigade of infantry behind their rifle-pits. Captains J. L. Hearne and B. F. Blackburne, and Lieutenant G. B. Jewell, of the brigade staff, are entitled to my thanks for promptly reporting to me when Brigadier General Deshler fell, and for their valuable services rendered to me during the engagement.

The aggregate strength of the brigade, including the battery, on the morning of the 19th, was seventeen hundred and eighty-three. I lost in the fight fifty-two killed and three hundred and sixty-six wounded.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

R. Q. MILLS.

*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL J. H. LEWIS, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS HELM'S BRIGADE, }  
*Before Chattanooga, September 30, 1863.* }

Major JAMES WILSON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: The death of Brigadier General B. H. Helm makes it my duty, as senior colonel commanding, to report the part taken by this brigade in the actions of the 19th and 20th instants:

On the afternoon of the 18th the brigade took position on the right bank of West Chickamauga, near Glass' mill, except the second Kentucky regiment deployed on the opposite side as skirmishers.

On the morning of the 19th the command, with Cobb's battery, crossed the stream. About nine, A. M., a shot from the battery into a house about five hundred yards off, where the enemy's skirmishers were concealed, excited an immediate response from the enemy farther to the right, followed soon after by a spirited artillery duel, in which Slocumb's battery, which had, in the meantime, crossed over, participated; resulting in silencing the enemy. Soon, however, another battery of the enemy opened fire still farther to the right. In a short time, orders having been issued from Major General Breckinridge to that effect, the whole command recrossed the stream and moved to the Chattanooga road. Fourteen men of this brigade were killed and wounded on this occasion. From thence we moved towards Chattanooga, to the position held by and relieving Deas' brigade. About two hours after nightfall we reached a point one and one-half miles beyond Alexander's bridge, where we bivouacked until three, A. M., 20th instant, when we were ordered to our position in line of battle one mile or more beyond and on the left of the division. We got into position and were ready to advance by about half past five, A. M. Soon after getting into position, one company from each regiment was, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Wickliffe, of the ninth Kentucky, deployed two hundred and fifty yards in advance as skirmishers. Becoming hotly engaged with the enemy, the fourth Kentucky regiment, Colonel Nuckolls commanding, was ordered to their support. The skirmishers of the enemy, having the advantage in position, showed determination and kept up a rapid fire, wounding several officers and men before the advance of the brigade. Amongst others severely wounded was Colonel Nuckolls, by which his command was thereafter deprived of the services of this gallant and meritorious officer.

Between nine and ten, A. M., the brigade advanced in the following order, viz: the sixth Kentucky, Colonel Lewis, and the second Kentucky, Lieutenant Colonel Hewitt commanding, on the extreme right and left respectively. The fourth Kentucky, Major Thompson, and ninth Kentucky, Colonel Caldwell commanding, on the right and left





centre respectively, and the forty-first Alabama, Colonel Stansell commanding, in the centre.

The enemy's fortifications did not extend the entire length of the brigade front, but the sixth and fourth and seven companies of the forty-first, in advancing, passed to the right and clear of them, consequently fighting the foe on something like equal terms. This portion of the command, with but a momentary halt and no hesitation, steadily drove the enemy back to within one hundred yards of the Chattanooga road, when I discovered a battery of two Napoleon guns fifty yards beyond the road. Here I also discovered, for the first time, what the thicker growth of timber had prevented me from observing before, that the left of the brigade was considerably in rear. Neither a halt or retreat at this time was, in my judgment, proper or allowable. So the command was given to take the battery, and it was done. Soon after crossing the road, Captain McCawley, of General Helm's staff, informed me that the General had been mortally wounded, near the position occupied by the left of the brigade.

The right not being then under fire, I left it in command of Lieutenant Colonel Cofer, and started, on Captain McCawley's horse, to where the other portion of the brigade was. I encountered considerable difficulty in reuniting the brigade, on account of the the distance apart and the want of staff aid—having no one with me but Captain Hewitt, and not him immediately, on account of the loss of his horse. Although not personally cognizant of the behavior of the left of the brigade previous to assuming command, yet I am warranted by information of an entirely satisfactory kind in speaking of it. Justice to the living, and affectionate memory of the dead, make it a duty and a pleasure to allude to their conduct in terms of praise.

After advancing about four hundred yards, they encountered a heavy musketry and artillery fire in front, and also an enfilading fire from the left, which the failure of the command to their left to advance simultaneously with Breckinridge's division enabled the enemy to pour into their ranks. Besides, I am satisfied they were subjected to a fire on their right from the two pieces subsequently captured by the right of the brigade. Yet three several times this devoted little band charged the enemy, securely fortified and in a favorable position. Though necessarily repulsed, their frightful loss shows their constancy and bravery. Here the kind, pure, brave Brigadier General B. H. Helm was mortally wounded, heroically doing his duty. Lieutenant Colonel James W. Hewitt, in advance of his regiment, and showing a devotion and daring entitled to the highest commendation, was killed. Colonel Caldwell was severely wounded, as usual, in his place, doing his duty. Robert C. Anderson, color-sergeant second Kentucky, was killed upon the enemy's works, after having planted his colors thereon. Here fell many another officer and soldier, life images of Kentucky's old, renowned and valiant soldiers, true men. The blood of her sons also attest Alabama's chivalry and manhood.

As soon as I ascertained the exact position of the left, I caused it to be moved by the right flank to the right, and in advance of where it was then, till the right of the brigade, under command of Lieutenant

Colonel Cofer, was met—he having recrossed the road—when I formed the brigade in line of battle nearly perpendicular to the road and to the enemy's works. About this time I received orders from Lieutenant General Hill, through one of his staff, not to advance, but to await the arrival of fresh troops. In a short time Gist's brigade attacked the enemy, passing through my lines for that purpose, but was drawn back. Ector's brigade then advanced, but being unable to drive the enemy from his works, finally fell back, leaving this brigade again to confront the enemy. My men, though at this time nearly exhausted by several hours hard fighting, and suffering greatly for want of water, remained firm, no one leaving his place. After the repulse of the other two brigades, I was ordered to retire several hundred yards to the rear to rest the men, which was done in good order and without confusion.

Late in the afternoon Walker's division advanced against the enemy, a portion of it attacking the same point the left of this brigade did in the morning. Being with my command about four hundred yards in rear at that time, and out of sight of the combatants, I could not see with what result the attack was made, though a short time thereafter Cheatham's division moved to the attack over the same ground—Bright's brigade, of that division, passing through the lines of this brigade. After some time had elapsed, and it appearing from the firing that no appreciable advantage had been gained, this brigade was moved forward, being on the left of the division. In advancing, it was discovered that the centre brigade of the division lapped on mine, making it necessary for me to oblique to the left about two hundred yards. It was also necessary to advance the left more rapidly than the right wing, in order to get on a line more parallel with the enemy. Both these difficult movements were executed while marching through the woods, without any material derangement of the line, the command moving steadily and unfalteringly forward.

Upon arriving in sight of the enemy's fortifications, the brigade rapidly charged upon them, driving them from their stronghold in confusion towards the Chattanooga road. The pursuit was continued across an open field till the road was reached, when, it being dark, I judged it prudent to halt, which met the approval of Lieutenant General Hill, who, close after us, immediately came up. In passing through the fortifications a number of prisoners were captured and sent to the rear. We also captured two pieces of artillery in the road, which our rapid pursuit of the enemy prevented their carrying off—one Napoleon and one James rifle. The nature of the ground, woodland, prevented Cobb's battery performing the important part in this action he and his gallant company have so often done, and knew so well how to do—though, in the afternoon, one section, under the gallant and faithful Gracey, was placed in position under General Forrest. I refer you to Captain Cobb's report for an account of their behavior on that occasion.

I am not enabled to state the exact number engaged in the actions of the 19th and 20th. But one thousand three hundred is the approximate number of officers and men, including Cobb's battery. The



whole number of casualties were sixty-three killed and four hundred and eight wounded.

It would afford me pleasure to designate, by name, the officers and men who so gallantly fought on these two occasions, for, with very few exceptions, all did their duty. But to do so would swell this report to an inordinate size. However, I feel it to be my duty, and take pleasure in the performance of it, to call attention to the conduct of the field officers of the different regiments. Lieutenant Colonel Cofer, in command of the sixth, after I took command of the brigade; Major Clark, of the same regiment; Major Thompson, in command of the fourth, after Colonel Nuckolls was wounded; Captain Millett, senior captain, acting field officer, of the same regiment, and Major Nash, in command of the seven companies of the forty-first Alabama, all came under my observation. In each I remarked constancy, gallantry and coolness. In the afternoon, Colonel Stansell, of the forty-first, Lieutenant Colonel Wickliffe, in command of the ninth, after Colonel Caldwell was wounded, and Captain Gillam, acting field officer, of the same regiment, attracted my notice, and but confirmed the good account I had of them in the morning. Captain Lee, of the second Kentucky, though too unwell to endure the fatigue throughout the day, acted as field officer with his accustomed bravery in the charges made by the left in the morning.

It is the highest praise I can possibly bestow on the officers of the brigade, to say they proved themselves, in nearly every case, worthy of their commands.

Of the staff of Brigadier General Helm, I take pleasure in bearing testimony in behalf of, and making special mention of, Captain Fayette Hewitt, assistant adjutant general. As soon as he was enabled to do so, he reported to me, and throughout the entire action, after the death of General Helm, as well as previous thereto, as I learn, he displayed coolness, gallantry and judgment.

Captain G. W. McCawley, assistant inspector general, promptly reported to me the wounding of General Helm, as before stated, at which time I got from him his horse, not having my own with me, when he returned to where General Helm was wounded, and remained with him. I am reliably informed that previous thereto he was in his place on the left, and acted bravely and efficiently.

Captain Helm, acting commissary subsistence, though not compelled to do so, went on the field and did his duty.

Lieutenant W. Herr, aid-de-camp, and Lieutenant John Pirtle, acting aid-de-camp, reported to me as soon as the necessary attention to their wounded General allowed, and thereafter acted gallantly and faithfully.

I enclose the several reports of regimental and the battery commanders, together with a list of killed and wounded.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH H. LEWIS,

*Colonel commanding Helm's brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL R. L. GIBSON, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS ADAMS' BRIGADE, }  
September 26, 1863. }

Major JAMES WILSON,

*A. A. General Breckinridge's Division :*

SIR : I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this brigade, composed of the thirteenth and twentieth Louisiana volunteers, Colonel Leon Von Zeniken; sixteenth and twenty-fifth Louisiana volunteers, Colonel D. Gober; nineteenth Louisiana volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel R. W. Turner; thirty-second Alabama volunteers, Major T. C. Kimball, and Austin's battalion Louisiana sharpshooters, with Slocumb's battery Washington artillery, in the battle of Chickamauga, from the moment that I assumed command :

I was engaged in reforming my regiment when informed that Brigadier Gen. D. W. Adams having been disabled by a wound, the command of the brigade devolved upon me. I at once ascertained that there was no support on the left of the brigade, and ordered the command to form on the rear slope of the hill upon which Captain C. H. Slocumb's battery Washington artillery was posted. This having been accomplished, I left the line in charge of Colonel Daniel Gober, sixteenth and twenty-fifth Louisiana volunteers, and hastened to the left, where I observed several regiments falling back. One of these I at once moved to the support of the line on the left, and directed Captain Labouisse, A. I. G., to bring up another, retreating through the woods, to the same position. With Captain Slocumb's assistance, he succeeded in placing two regiments in position. They were believed to belong to the brigade on our left. The thirty-second Alabama volunteers and Austin's battalion, which had not participated in the charge, but had been ordered to oppose the advance of a column of the enemy's infantry, reported on our right and rear, were called in and directed to join the brigade on the right of the battery. It was deemed best to occupy ourselves with the enemy in sight, leaving the cavalry reports for after consideration. These dispositions had just been made, when Major General Breckinridge reached us and approved them.

Captain Slocumb, whose battery had made a noble stand, here informed me that he was considerably cut up, and that he thought it best to retire for a short time. He was ordered to retire. In less than two hours he again reported ready for action, having equipped himself, in nearly everything needed, from the battery taken by the brigade in approaching, for the first time, the main Chattanooga road.

I do not think it worth while to speak of the different lines of battle taken before again engaging the enemy. About four o'clock, by order of Major General Breckinridge, the brigade was posted about three hundred yards in rear of Major General Walker's command, (General

Liddell's division.) The line was here subjected to some shelling, and it became apparent that our forces in front were unsuccessful in their attacks. About sundown General Breckinridge turned to me and directed that I should advance, and at the same time execute a change of direction to the left. I had advanced but a short distance, when I saw, from what was occurring in front of us, that our lines in advance were giving away under an enfilading fire from the left, and I therefore gained as much ground to the left as time and circumstances would permit. The movement forward was made slowly, carefully and with all possible precision. We passed over several lines of troops as we advanced, who cheered us heartily. The extreme right regiment was detained a few moments by one of these lines, as will be seen by referring to Colonel Guber's report. I determined, if possible, not to fire a gun, and it is due to the officers and men of the brigade that I should state that we passed through a line engaging the enemy without halting and without firing, and continued to advance, moving in perfect order, until within a few paces of the enemy, when a charge was ordered and the whole command, with a terrific yell, sprang upon him. A volley was received without effect; a second, from the barricades of trees and stones, checked us for an instant; but the officers rushed forward again, the men followed, and the enemy, panic stricken, fled in the wildest disorder. Not a moment was to be lost; the brigade was urged forward, its centre resting near the fence which separated the corn-field from the woods, the left extending into the field. We thus continued to drive the enemy from every position for three-quarters of a mile, until we had entered the woods about seventy yards from the Chattanooga road, where it was halted. Darkness was now rapidly approaching.

I had sent Lieutenant Ware, of the staff, to the left, and he reported to me that there were no troops on that flank; confirming the statement of Colonel Von Zeniken, commanding the left regiment. I had gone myself to the right. I deemed it proper therefore to halt and to rectify the alignment, which had become broken in the pursuit, before advancing further. This had just been finished when Lieutenant General Hill rode up and, observing that we had done well, directed that I should throw forward skirmishers for the distance of a mile. A few moments afterwards I was ordered by Major General Breckinridge to bivouac near the main Chattanooga road, and I accordingly moved back to this position. Many prisoners remained within our lines during the charge, but no attention was paid to them; they numbered probably three or four hundred.

The position stormed was held by a brigade of United States regulars, under Brig. General King. The enemy's dead and wounded marked the track of the brigade. Many hundreds of small arms were found upon the field next morning. A battery was taken by the thirteenth and twentieth Louisiana, but the gallant manner in which the remainder of the brigade behaved entitles them to share in the credit of the capture.

In the night our skirmishers, under Captain E. M. Dubroca, company B, thirteenth and twentieth Louisiana, sent in thirty prisoners,

among them several officers; and Major T. E. Austin's battalion brought in fifty more next day. The brigade halted victorious at night on the very ground whence it had recoiled at mid-day.

I would respectfully refer the Major General commanding to the reports of subordinate commanders for the parts their commands bore in the battle.

Among the officers, Colonel Daniel Gober, sixteenth and twenty-fifth Louisiana, and Colonel Leon Von Zeniken, thirteenth and twentieth Louisiana, were conspicuous for courage and skill. All the officers and men behaved with commendable gallantry. Major C. H. Moore, sixteenth and twenty-fifth Louisiana; Major T. C. Kimball, thirty-second Alabama; Captain H. A. Kennedy, nineteenth Louisiana, who commanded in the evening charge, and Captain E. M. Dubroca, thirteenth and twentieth Louisiana, showed themselves officers well fitted to handle troops on the field. The report of Captain C. H. Slocomb, Washington artillery, shows how large a share his command bore in the engagement. I cannot speak in terms too high of the bearing of the officers and men of this battery. The skill of the former is only equalled by the bearing of the latter.

Our valor-inspiring chief of artillery, Major Graves, of Major General Breckinridge's staff, fell, mortally wounded, in the arms of Captain C. H. Slocomb. He fell, where his heroic soul desired, on the battle-field, among those who loved him, and in the arms of a brave comrade.

But our success was not without heavy loss. Our chivalrous commander, Brigadier General D. W. Adams, was wounded in the charge of the morning and fell into the hands of the enemy. Lieutenant Colonel R. W. Turner, nineteenth Louisiana, was wounded, and the brave Major Loudon Butler, of the same regiment, breathed his last at the head of his regiment. Of General Adams' staff, I am indebted for valuable services to John W. Labouisse, A. I. G., who was ever prompt and efficient, and to Lieutenants E. M. Scott and G. S. Yerger likewise for zeal and bravery. Nor should I omit to pay a special tribute to the soldierly bearing of Lieutenant S. L. Ware. He is entitled to much credit for his conspicuous gallantry. The gallant adjutant general, Captain E. P. Guillet, was already wounded. Major M. Hanly, A. Q. M., and Major W. V. Crouch, A. C. S., have, throughout the campaign, discharged their duties with fidelity and promptness.

The brigade entered the action with one hundred and twenty officers, and lost in killed and wounded thirty-three; with twelve hundred enlisted men, and lost in killed, wounded and missing three hundred and ninety-six. It drove the enemy from two batteries which fell within our lines, only six guns of which, however, upon investigation, were positively taken by officers of the command. About six hundred prisoners were likewise captured during the battle. It only ceased the pursuit of the enemy at night and under orders. One hour more of daylight had added largely to our captures.

I have the honor to remain, yours, very respectfully,

R. L. GIBSON,

*Colonel commanding.*

*REPORT of the Effective Strength of the several Regiments composing Adams' Brigade, carried into the Battle of Chickamauga, on each day of the Battle :*

| COMMAND.                 | NAME OF COMMANDER.       | 19TH OCTOBER. |               |        | 20TH OCTOBER. |               |        |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|---------------|---------------|--------|
|                          |                          | Officers.     | Enlisted men. | Total. | Officers.     | Enlisted men. | Total. |
| 15th and 20th La. reg't. | Col. Leon Von Zinken...  | .....         | .....         | .....  | 34            | 255           | 289    |
| 16th and 25th La. reg't  | Col. D. Geber.....       | .....         | .....         | .....  | 26            | 293           | 319    |
| 19th La. regiment.....   | Lt. Col. R. W. Turner..  | .....         | .....         | .....  | 33            | 317           | 350    |
| Austin's battalion.....  | Major T. E. Austin. .... | .....         | .....         | .....  | 9             | 90            | 99     |
| 32nd Ala. regiment.....  | Major T. C. Kimball....  | .....         | .....         | .....  | 18            | 127           | 145    |
| Slocomb's battery.....   | Captain C. H. Slocomb..  | 6             | 120           | 126    | 5             | 107           | 112    |
| Total .....              | .....                    | 6             | 120           | 126    | 125           | 1,189         | 1,314  |

The infantry of this brigade was not engaged in the battle of October 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. GIBSON,  
Colonel commanding.



## REPORT OF COLONEL J. H. KELLY, COMMANDING BRIGADE

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, PRESTON'S DIVISION, }  
*In the Field fronting Chattanooga, Sept. 25, 1863.* }

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the operations of the brigade under my command in the battle of the 19th and 20th instants:

The night of the 18th instant I bivouacked, with three regiments of the brigade, (the sixty-third Virginia, Major French commanding, having been detached the day before as a guard to the division ordnance train,) on the right bank of the Chickamauga. At daylight, on the morning of the 19th, I was ordered to cross the Chickamauga at Dalton's ford, and at about eight o'clock I formed line of battle in a corn-field, on the left of Brown's brigade, Stewart's division, and three hundred yards in rear of Gracie's brigade, the fifty-eighth North Carolina, Colonel J. B. Palmer commanding, forming the right; the fifth Kentucky, Colonel H. Hawkins commanding, the left, and the sixty-fifth Georgia, Colonel Moore commanding, the centre of my line. Here the brigade was subjected to a brisk cannonade from the enemy's batteries. At about eleven o'clock I was ordered to move by the right flank about four hundred yards, when I again formed line of battle, and remained in position during the remainder of the night and day, being occasionally shelled. At this point the sixty-third Virginia, less two companies detached as guard for division ordnance train, reported to the command at about three o'clock, P. M.

At about seven o'clock, on the morning of the 20th instant, the brigade was moved by the left flank about three hundred yards and posted on an eminence, as a support to three batteries of Major Leyden's battalion of artillery. From this position I threw out four companies of skirmishers, in charge of Lieutenant Colonel Edmund Kirby, fifty-eighth North Carolina. He moved to the front and left, and reported the enemy moving to the right. At one o'clock I was ordered to leave the sixty-fifth Georgia as a support to the above-named batteries, and move by the right flank and form line of battle five hundred yards in rear of Gracie's brigade and conform to its movements. While the line of battle was in process of formation, I discovered that Gracie's brigade was moving by the right flank on the Chattanooga road. I therefore moved by the right flank five hundred yards to the right of that road and parallel with it. After marching in this direction about one and a half miles, I was halted and ordered to form line of battle to resist an attack from the front or the left flank. This disposition was made, and I remained in position until about half-past three o'clock, P. M.—the enemy meanwhile actively shelling me. At this time I was ordered to move by the left flank, and, having marched three-fourths of a mile, I was ordered to form on the left of Gracie's brigade. While this was being executed I was



ordered to make an oblique change of direction to the right and to advance. I had advanced but a short distance when I was subjected to the enemy's fire. The enemy was posted on a heavily wooded ridge, from which he had several times repulsed other troops of our army. The approach to him was over a succession of hills, with intervening depressions, each hill to the front being somewhat more elevated. The brigade, under fire of the enemy, moved steadily to the front three or four hundred yards, holding its fire until within very short range of the enemy, the right being not more than fifteen or twenty, the centre about forty, and the left about sixty yards distant when our first fire was delivered. After a desperately contested fight of half an hour I succeeded in gaining the hill, from which the enemy made three unsuccessful attempts to dislodge me by assault. However, owing to the conformation of the ground, the fifty-eighth North Carolina was exposed to a galling fire from the front and both flanks, and, after losing about half its numbers, was compelled to fall back to a position of greater security. Just before this falling back Lieutenant Colonel Edmund Kirby, gallantly cheering his men, fell, pierced by four bullets—Major Dula having been wounded early in the engagement. At this juncture I was indebted to Brigadier General Anderson for a reinforcement of one regiment from his command. Colonel Palmer, the only field officer with the regiment, was here wounded, but still continued in command. After exchanging fires with the enemy for about an hour and a half, I determined to attempt to dislodge him by assault, and for this purpose transferred the fifty-eighth North Carolina from the right to the left of my line and moved forward, swinging somewhat to the right. When I arrived at the base of the hill the enemy was heard to cry, "We surrender, we surrender." I immediately stepped to the front, my horse having been previously killed, and called upon the officer who seemed to be in command and demanded that if he proposed to surrender he should lay down his arms. He came to the front and said, "Wait a minute." I replied, "No, sir; lay down your arms instantly, or I will fire upon you," and turned to my command, but before I could give the command "ready," he poured upon it a terrific fire, which, on account of its suddenness, threw the brigade for the instant into confusion, but it rallied and was reformed within thirty yards of this position. I am confident that the enemy intended to surrender, and that his fire was drawn by an unauthorized shot from his ranks. Finding that my ammunition was almost exhausted, I sent to the rear for reinforcements or a supply of ammunition. At this juncture I met Colonel Trigg, commanding brigade, and informed him of the position of the enemy, asking him, at the same time, to co-operate with me in his capture. He agreed, and formed his line on my left, with the intention of swinging the whole force to the right. Just as the movement was begun, I was notified by one of his staff that the Brigadier General commanding division wished to see me, and I repaired at once to where he was stationed in the field. During this temporary absence the enemy surrendered to Colonel Trigg. Immediately after the surrender a force, supposed to be of the enemy, opened a heavy fire,

which created considerable confusion, in which a large number of the enemy were making off. Colonel H. Hawkins, of the fifth Kentucky, here captured two hundred and forty-nine prisoners, including two colonels, one lieutenant colonel and a number of company officers. About this time I rejoined the command, and turned over to Lieutenant Colonel Wade, of the fifty-fourth Virginia, to be taken to the rear, my prisoners, except the three field officers, who were sent to division headquarters in charge of one of my staff. The night being far advanced, I made arrangements to replenish my supply of ammunition, and went into bivouac on the hill which the brigade had so gallantly won.

It would not be proper for me to close this report without tendering my thanks to the members of my staff and the officers commanding the regiments for valuable assistance rendered in handling the troops, and bearing testimony to the gallant conduct of the officers and men composing the command. It was the first time that most of them had ever been under fire, yet they acted with the coolness and courage of veterans. Fighting against a superior force, posted in an apparently impregnable position, they moved steadily forward, beat and captured the enemy, and slept in his strong place. When all did their duty so well, it seems almost invidious to make particular mention of any one, yet I must be allowed to speak of the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Colonel E. Kirby, fifty-eighth North Carolina; Captain C. H. Lynch, sixty-third Virginia; Lieutenant Colonel G. W. Conner, Major William Mynhier and Adjutant Thomas H. B. Cork, fifth Kentucky, and especially Captain J. Desha, fifth Kentucky, who, although painfully and severely wounded early in the action, remained at the head of his company until the enemy was defeated.

I took into the fight an aggregate of eight hundred and fifty-two, and lost, in killed and wounded, three hundred and three, and twenty-six in missing.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. KELLY,

*Colonel commanding brigade.*





## REPORT OF COLONEL R. C. TRIGG, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS TRIGG'S BRIGADE. }  
September 26, 1863. }

Captain J. L. SANDFORD,

*Assistant Adjutant General :*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part borne by my brigade in the battles of the Chickamauga, on the 19th and 20th instants:

By order of Brigadier General Preston commanding division, I crossed the Chickamauga, at early dawn, the morning of the 19th, and formed line of battle near Hunt's house, on the prolongation of Brigadier General Bate's line. Whilst occupying this position the enemy threw shot and shell into my lines from a battery on the right. The sixth regiment Florida volunteers (Colonel Finley) lost one lieutenant, one sergeant and one private killed, and two privates wounded. I promptly moved the brigade forward so as to get the cover afforded by the opposite hills.

About twelve o'clock, M., by direction of Brigadier General Preston, I moved my brigade by the right flank and reformed on the crest of a ridge about half a mile north of Hunt's house. As soon as the line was formed, I deployed the first regiment Florida cavalry, (dis-mounted,) Colonel Maxwell, as skirmishers, three hundred yards in advance, and covering the entire front of the brigade. This regiment soon became engaged with the enemy's infantry in a corn-field and the woods to the right of the field. It kept up quite a brisk fire for more than two hours, when the right was driven in by a destructive fire of grape and canister from a battery in the field. At this time I was ordered to reinforce General Hood and move in the direction of the firing. The firing was on my right. I moved by the right flank until met by a staff officer, who came to conduct me to the point where Gen. Hood needed support—the position held by General Benning's brigade. At his instance I moved by the front. Soon after I was met by another staff officer, who claimed my support for General Robertson's brigade. I continued my movement by the front until I came near a corn-field, in which the enemy had a battery, protected by earthworks, near the Chattanooga road, and supported by a long line of infantry drawn up in the field, and in rifle-pits and woods on the right and left of the battery. The enemy was advancing when I first discovered him, and had passed about one-third the length of the field. The troops that had won the wooded ridge outside of the field, and on my right, were falling back in some confusion. The advance of the enemy and the falling back of our troops seemed to effect some change in the mind of the officer conducting me. He requested me to halt until he could learn precisely what position I was to take. While thus halted and

under the enemy's fire, General Robertson appeared and hurriedly informing me that his line was very much weakened and would be beaten back unless quickly reinforced, indicated the direction in which I should move. I obliqued to the right until I supposed that my right was opposite to his left. This brought the front of my brigade to the corn-field fence. All this while I had been under a most destructive fire of the enemy's artillery, and, at this time, he concentrated upon me the fire of his whole force in the corn-field and in the timber around it. I had not, as yet, fired a single gun. I reserved my fire until I reached the fence. At the first volley the enemy broke in confusion to the left and rear. Seeing his confusion, I ordered my brigade to charge before he could rally. The sixth Florida regiment gallantly responded, leaping the fence and dashing forward to the crest of the ridge, forcing the enemy's broken line to seek the nearest cover on the right, left and in rear. This regiment regained the ridge, which I am informed was won and lost more than once during the day, cleared the corn-field of all the infantry, drove nearly all the gunners from the battery and would have certainly captured it but for a lamentable interference with my command.

When the order to charge was given, I was on the right with this regiment. The order was not promptly conveyed to the other regiments of the brigade, and they failing to conform to the movements of the sixth Florida, it got from one hundred and fifty to two hundred yards in advance. Having gained the crest of the ridge, I discovered, for the first time, that the other regiments of the brigade were not up with the sixth Florida. I immediately started to bring them up, but had gone but a short distance, when I perceived them crossing the fence and moving forward in good order. I returned to direct the movements of the sixth Florida. When these regiments had reached the second fence, I discovered that they were being moved by Brigadier General Robertson across the field by the right flank and in rear of the sixth. Finding that this regiment would not receive support from the rest of my brigade, and it being exposed to a terrible fire from the front and left, (the enemy having in part recovered from hispanic,) I withdrew it below the crest of the ridge, and unwillingly relinquished the capture of the battery, which a few minutes before I had regarded as almost accomplished. For such was the disposition of my brigade that when the charge was ordered, two regiments and half of another on my left overlapped the enemy's battery and supports, and, when withdrawn from the field, they were moving rapidly to turn his right flank. Night put an end to the conflict.

On the morning of the 20th, I formed my brigade four hundred yards in the rear of Manigault's brigade, Hindman's division, and was ordered to support him and conform to his movements. About twelve o'clock, M., General Manigault moved forward in the direction of the Chattanooga road. I followed. When in four hundred yards of the road, I came up with his artillery, which had halted, and met a good many stragglers from his brigade. I rode forward to the road and found some confusion in the brigade. I informed an officer of







General Manigault's staff that I was there to support him and ready to render the support at any moment.

About this time I learned from an officer of General Hindman's staff, that the left of Hindman's division was threatened and would be turned unless quickly supported, (the left of that division having been supported up to that time by Manigault's brigade.) I moved my brigade to the Chattanooga road in double-quick time, passing General Manigault's brigade and taking the front. The position of the enemy being indicated to me, I disposed of the troops of my command with a view to offensive movements, and ordered the battery assigned me (Captain Peeples, ninth Georgia battalion) to take position and open fire upon the enemy. The enemy failing to respond, after several rounds, and it being evident that he had withdrawn from that part of the field, I ordered the firing to cease and proposed to advance, when I received orders from General Buckner to move down the Chattanooga road and support Williams' battalion of artillery.

Having remained in support of this artillery until half-past two o'clock, P. M., I was ordered by General Buckner to move back on the Chattanooga road, with two of my regiments and one piece of artillery, and select a favorable position to resist the enemy's cavalry, which, it was understood, had passed to our rear and was moving on that road. Whilst engaged in the discharge of this duty, with the first Florida (dismounted) cavalry and seventh regiment Florida volunteers (Colonel Bullock) and one piece of artillery, an order from General Buckner directed me to withdraw one regiment and rejoin the division. I withdrew the seventh Florida, but had hardly put it in motion when I received from General Preston a pressing order to move rapidly to the support of the other brigades of his division, (Gracie's and Kelly's.)

The cavalry whose movements I had been sent to oppose having proved to be our own, I took the responsibility of ordering the other regiment and the piece of artillery to follow, and communicated the facts to General Buckner as I passed along. The sixth Florida and fifty-fourth Virginia regiments had been already put in motion by Colonel Findley, senior colonel. The battle was raging furiously when I arrived with the seventh Florida regiment, which I formed on the left of the fifty-fourth Virginia, which, with the sixth Florida regiment, was already formed on the left of Kelly's brigade. [The first Florida (dismounted) regiment, on the way to join the brigade, was detached by order of General Preston and sent to the support of General Gracie's brigade.] Without wavering or faltering, these two brigades—marching over some of our own troops, who were lying down—drove the enemy steadily before them, until his right was forced from its strong position, on rough, broken ground, heavily timbered. Driven from this position, he fell back upon a second line of ridges, running perpendicular to the Chattanooga road, which was already held by a strong force and protected by breastworks. When near the base of this ridge, I learned from Colonel Kelly the precise locality of the enemy, and immediately determined, with him, to

attempt the capture of that part of his force in my front, my position being particularly favorable for the attainment of this end. I immediately wheeled my brigade to the right, which brought me in rear of the enemy, and moved rapidly up the hill to within twenty paces of his lines. This movement surprised him and resulted in the capture of the twenty-second Michigan, the eighty-ninth Ohio, and part of the twenty-first Ohio regiments, five stands of colors, and over one thousand five hundred small arms, of the latest and most approved pattern.

Darkness having fallen, and the enemy having withdrawn from his position on my left, no further movement was attempted.

Before beginning the movement last alluded to, I requested two brigades, which were in my rear, to form on my left and co-operate with me. They declined, for the want of ammunition. It is greatly to be regretted that they were not in a condition to give me assistance. Had they formed on my left, our line would have extended nearly, if not quite, to the Chattanecoga road, and, being in rear of the enemy, all his forces occupying the ridge would have been completely cut off.

Where every officer and man did his whole duty, special mention cannot be made.

The fortune of war threw the sixth Florida regiment into the post of danger, and upon them fell the heaviest loss, and proved them "veterans in their first fight." Their commanding officer is proud to render to them this just tribute of praise, and he is also proud to express his conviction that each other regiment of his brigade is worthy of, and, had circumstances allowed, would have won equal commendation. It is simple justice to my command to say that it beat the enemy everywhere it found him, and carried every position which it assaulted.

I take pleasure in mentioning the following named soldiers, who have distinguished themselves by the capture, each, of a stand of the enemy's colors:

Sergeant L. E. Timmons, company I, seventh regiment Florida volunteers, captured the regimental flag of the twenty-first Ohio regiment.

Private Oscar F. Honaker, company F, fifty-fourth Virginia regiment, captured the regimental flag of the twenty-second Michigan regiment.

Private W. F. Harris, company F, fifty-fourth Virginia regiment, captured the State flag of the twenty-second Michigan regiment.

Private Henderson Hylton, company A, fifty-fourth Virginia regiment, captured the regimental flag of the eighty-ninth Ohio regiment.

Private Franklin Carter, company K, fifty-fourth Virginia regiment, captured the State flag of the twenty-first Ohio regiment.

In this connection, I deem it proper to state that private J. H. M. Moseley, Captain Hays' company, sixth regiment Florida volunteers, captured a stand of colors, and, while guarding prisoners to the rear, he passed a small party of men, who claimed them. Being unable to distinguish these men in the dark, and supposing them to be a squad



*Rich Morgan*





detailed by me to receive the captured colors, he gave them up. These colors have not been heard of since. I have no doubt of the truth of private Moseley's statement. It is corroborated by other evidence. These colors were doubtless turned over to men of another command, and sent in to headquarters as captured by them.

Append-1 is a statement of the killed, wounded and missing of my brigade.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ROBERT C. TRIGG.

*Colonel commanding Brigade, Preston's Division, Buckner's Corps.*

# REPORT OF CAPTAIN CHARLES SWETT, ACTING CHIEF OF ARTILLERY.

ARTILLERY ENCAMPMENT, LIDDELL'S BRIGADE, }  
October 7th, 1863. }

Captain S. A. WILLIAMS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the action of the artillery of Liddell's division in the battle of Chickamauga on the 19th and 20th of September, and also in the affair of the 18th ultimo:

On the morning of the 17th September, orders were received to be in readiness for an early movement, and, at three P. M., Liddell's division left Lafayette and moved toward the enemy in the direction of Chattanooga.

At nine o'clock, on the morning of the 18th, the command reached a point on Chickamauga creek, near Alexander's bridge; but finding it in possession of the enemy, line of battle was formed, and an advance made, in order to dislodge them. The enemy had but one battery which was posted near a house on the opposite bank of the creek, and which fired upon our skirmishers, a few shots passing over the line. Fowler's battery was moved to the front and placed in position near the road, and on the edge of a cultivated field, from which place a section of his guns were ordered some three hundred yards further to the front by General Liddell, but do not think he fired from the place designated. The battery under command of Lieutenant Shannon was ordered to the right of Walthall's brigade, to a position commanding the one occupied by the Federal battery. After firing a few rounds the enemy disappeared, as our fire was not returned, nor were they again seen at this place. The fire of our battery was ordered to cease, and the command moved forward, crossing the Chickamauga at Byron's ford, and camping for the night one mile from that stream.

On the morning of the 19th, the command moved at an early hour and formed line of battle a mile distant from our camp of the previous night, and advanced to the support of Ector's brigade, which was then engaging the enemy. The Washington light artillery followed Liddell's brigade, and a portion of Fowler's battery following Walthall's, though neither battery could be brought into action, in consequence of the rapid advance of the command and of the character of the ground over which we were moving. At this place a flank movement of the enemy caused the division to fall back, though Lieutenant Shannon succeeded in firing a few rounds on retiring, in order to check the enemy; but Fowler's battery could not be brought into action, (though it was twice halted by myself for that purpose,) as the enemy would have surrounded and captured the guns had they been unlimbered. From this position the division moved to the right near a mile distant, and formed line perpendicular to the formation of





the morning. From this point the command advanced with the Washington light artillery, on the right of Liddell's brigade, it being the intention to have Fowler's battery follow on the left of Walthall. As the division moved, a Parrott battery opened upon our line, but a few well-directed shots from Fowler's battery either caused it to change position or to retire, as it did not gain upon. The division advanced but a few hundred yards, when it retired to the base of an inclination that it had nearly gained the summit of which movement was, in a measure, owing to a battery firing over our line from the rear, and which was connected with Parrott's command. Before the division retired, I moved to the front and left to secure a position for Fowler's battery; and, while gone, Captain P. pointed one of his lieutenants to move with the brigade, which he is attached, with the section under his command, which resulted in the loss of a Napoleon gun and four or five horses, though the ground was subsequently retaken. The Washington light artillery was taken at first to a position in rear and to the right of Cleburne's division, where for about half an hour we shelled the enemy's rear. A caisson and three limbers were taken from the field on the return of the battery to our line, and a James rifle gun and limber was hauled to the company by hand and turned over to Lieutenant Shannon, by members of the brigade. The division remained in this position till the following morning, when it was moved by the left flank about one mile, and afterwards two miles to the right, to a position in rear and to the right Gen. of Breckinridge, who was then engaging the enemy. The division remained here till ten, A. M., when it was ordered forward to the support of General Breckinridge. On reaching the rear of General Breckinridge's command, it was found to be falling back, though repeatedly rallied and renewed the contest. The artillery was ordered into position in rear of the line, on the left of the road, and fronting the west, which position we were ordered to defend; but did not find it necessary to fire. Fowler's battery was here moved forward and an effort made to gain a position on the right of our line, which could not be done in consequence of the infantry continually giving way. We remained here till half past four, P. M., when we moved against the enemy, the artillery following by the road, and ascending a hill and taking position in an orchard near M. D. Donahoe's house, and on the right of the division, we succeeded in getting seven guns in position and engaged a Parrott battery of the enemy, distant about eight hundred yards, but had no other success than we were fired upon by a musketry battery, two hundred yards from our right flank, and by one one thousand yards from and southward of us, and by another on the left flank of Liddell's brigade. The effect of our fire was very destructive to the enemy, but we were forced to leave the ground, as the advance of a line of the enemy at a double-quick on the left flank of Liddell's brigade, together with the artillery fire made the position untenable. The order was given to the artillery not to retire till the last moment, nor until the infantry had fallen back. The artillery reached the base of the hill, when, being flanked by the Federals and a horse shot down in a gun of both Fowler's battery and the

Washington light artillery company, Lieutenant Shannon called upon Captain Fletcher, of the thirteenth Arkansas, who rallied a few men and secured both pieces, which were soon afterwards taken to the rear.

On the morning of the 21st, a gun was ordered by Gen. Liddell to the position occupied by us on the previous evening, and soon afterwards both Fowler's battery and the Washington light artillery were ordered to the same place. It soon being discovered we had no enemy in our front, the command moved on the Lafayette and Chattanooga road in the direction of the latter place. A report of the casualties in the artillery of the division has been forwarded.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES SWETT,

*Captain and Acting Chief of Artillery, Liddell's Division.*







W. A. Rorer





















